

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. XLI.]

HONGKONG: WEDNESDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY, 1895.

No. 8.

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### BIRTH.

At Hoihow, on the 11th inst., the wife of GEORGE D. SHARNHORST, I. M. Customs, of a son. [434]

### MARRIAGE.

On the 11th of February, 1895, at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., ROBERT DOWNIE, Master Mariner, Shanghai, to MARY LAIDLAW, daughter of Thomas PRINGLE, Esq., Leslie, Fifeshire.

### DEATH.

At Wenchow, on the 5th instant, EMMA, the dearly beloved wife of Alfred Albert GODMIN, I. M. Customs, aged 35 years.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The German mail of the 14th January arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, on the 14th February (31 days).

The rates of subscription to the *Hongkong Weekly Press* are \$12 yearly, \$7 half-yearly, and \$4 quarterly, payable in advance; the credit rates are \$13.50, \$8, and \$4.50 respectively. Postage \$2 per annum additional.

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Maxwell, late Colonial Secretary of the Straits, takes up his new appointment as Governor of the Gold Coast Colony about the end of March.

A Reuter's telegram of the 15th instant states that a conflict has occurred between French troops and Siamese at Kammaun on the left bank of the Mekong, in which it is reported a French officer was severely wounded.

The war appears to be approaching its termination. The surrender of Weihaiwei is now complete and the Viceroy Li Hung-chang has been appointed to proceed to Japan to renew peace negotiations. Admiral Ting is stated to have committed suicide.

The half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Limited, was held on the 18th inst., when the report and accounts were adopted.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, was held on the 15th inst., when the report and accounts were adopted.

The *Foochow Echo* understands that it is in the contemplation of the local authorities to levy another lekin tax of Tls. 2.50 upon tea during the season 1895-1896 as a war contribution.

The annual report of the Shanghai Land Investment Co., Limited, shows a profit on the working account of Tls. 43,561 as against Tls. 39,348 last year. A final dividend of 4 per cent., making 7 per cent. for the year, is recommended.

A Havas telegram dated Paris, 7th inst., reads as follows:—It is stated that France, Russia, England, and the United States have agreed to prevent Japan annexing any part of the continent and also to demand from China the opening of all her ports to commerce.

Mr. J. A. Swettenham, Auditor-General of Ceylon, has been appointed to be Colonial Secretary of the Straits Settlements. Mr. Swettenham, who is a Cambridge man, entered the Ceylon service in 1868, and has served there for twenty-seven years, except during eight years when he was in Cyprus.

Vice-Admiral Sir Edmund Fremantle's term of command of the British Squadron in China expires in April next, when he will have held it three years. A service journal says that under the circumstances, the disturbed condition of affairs in China, the term will probably, following a precedent, be extended for an additional year.

A telegram has been received by the Naval Authorities at Hongkong from the British Consul at Takow reading "Protection urgently required." The *Mercury* was at once despatched and other vessels are to follow. The nature of the trouble is not known, the Chinese cable not being available for private messages at present.

The following movements in the Consular service are reported by the *N. C. Daily News*:—Mr. W. Holland will leave for Ichang very shortly, in order to take up his post of Consul at that port. From the 11th February the Shipping Office at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Shanghai, will be in the charge of Mr. J. W. Jamieson, and Mr. Bullock will act as Police Magistrate, etc.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, held on the 16th inst., the report and accounts were adopted. The announcement that the directors had voted a bonus to the staff of ten per cent. on their salaries was received with approval and a resolution increasing the remuneration of the directors from \$20,000 to \$30,000 was carried unanimously.

A Reuter's telegram states that there is a strong bimetallic movement in Germany. The Reichstag has passed a resolution calling on the Government to convene an interstate Monetary Conference. Prince Hohenlohe is disposed to consider the matter favourably. Graf von Posadowsky (Secretary of State for Finance) in a powerful bimetallic speech said that this decision had caused a rise in all silver securities.

Mr. Claude White, British Agent in Sikkim, will, the *Rangoon Gazette* says, shortly undertake the delimitation of the Sikkim-Tibet frontier in accordance with the terms of the Anglo-Chinese Treaty. The Tibetans will send representatives to meet Mr. White, who will take only a small escort with him.

On the night of the 14th inst., a havildar in the Hongkong Regiment named Uramz Khan was fatally shot. Before he died he accused a private named Nawab Shah of being his assailant and this man has been charged with the murder. The affair occurred in an unfrequented road and the circumstances are wrapped in mystery.

The Chefoo correspondent of the *Mercury* writing on the 7th inst. says:—The Japanese, I hear, are coming here to try a sort of "test case," to see how the Foreign Powers will take it. If this is really the case no doubt it explains the reason of Admiral Fremantle's short and continual visits here in the *Centurion*.

General Wei Yu-kwei, who was executed at Peking on the 17th January, for gross cowardice, is reported, says the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, to have amassed Taels 200,000, presumably embezzled from the pay of his troops, and to have disbursed Taels 40,000 to various officials to buy his safety. He failed to save his life, owing, it is said, to the determination of the Emperor and Prince Kung to make an example of him.

The *Straits Times* says:—Mr. Joaquim, one of the liquidators of the Singapore Insurance Company, has arrived in the colony, and the Board of Liquidators is now, with Mr. Craig and Mr. Fraser, complete. Shareholders have been waiting with due patience, and some expectancy, for a statement of affairs showing how the liquidation now stands. There appears to be no solid reason for further delay in giving the information. The Board have had in their hands for some time past a considerable sum of money, and there must be another small dividend forthcoming. The claim in London for \$25,000 is still, as far as people know, unsettled. It may, however, have been established or disposed of, or be on the point of either. These are things the shareholders wish information about, and, with the three liquidators here, there ought to be no difficulty in at once presenting a statement.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Courrier d'Haiphong* asks what the Japanese will demand as the price of the campaign and proceeds to answer it as follows:—Not Korea, for Russia would object to that. They might take Formosa, but England is on the watch there and some say that already she has promised to pay Japan the war indemnity that the latter will demand from China and will take Formosa in payment of the fifty million sterling that this will cost her. Do you think that John Bull would be satisfied with that? Not at all. Formosa would belong to him by right of purchase. To assure his trade at Shanghai, Hankow, and Ichang he will occupy Chusan, and in order that his goods may more readily reach Kwangsi, Yunnan, and Kweichow he will demand and obtain the opening of the Canton River. That is what will happen if the present dynasty does not fall in the struggle and if humiliated China preserves her eighteen provinces. But if the country has to be cut up the English will demand Formosa, Chekiang, and the valley of the Yangtze. The English work for themselves, and we would be wrong to blame them. What ought France to do to safeguard her interests?



## THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

(16th February.)

Reuter's telegram stating that the Chinese Peace Embassy has left Japan disposes of the last ray of hope that something might still be done by CHAN and SHAO, with the assistance of Mr. FOSTER, their American adviser, towards arranging a settlement. On the arrival of the Envoys at Hiroshima it was found that their credentials were fatally defective and powerless. They were not authorised to pledge their Government and in fact occupied a position little superior to that of message bearers, so the Japanese Ministers refused to continue negotiations and closed the conference. The Chinese Envoys were required to depart forthwith, and they left for Nagasaki to await a steamer to China. A telegram was, however, sent to them at Nagasaki by their Government directing them to remain at that port pending the receipt of credentials which might be acceptable to the Japanese. This looked as if the Emperor's advisers were sincerely desirous of peace and were acting in good faith, and hopes of a successful issue of the mission were revived. These hopes have, unfortunately, been dissipated, and the Embassy has now definitely failed. But Count Ito is reported to have told the discredited Chinese Envoys when dismissing them from Hiroshima that Japan would always be ready to receive real instead of only nominal Plenipotentiaries to treat for peace. Two Embassies have now failed and some time must necessarily elapse before a third can be despatched. The Chinese if they are well advised will of course send another as soon as possible, but the inevitable delay is likely to prove costly and to make the final settlement more difficult. It was stated by a Japanese journal that Mr. FOSTER would accompany the returning Embassy to Peking, and would endeavour to have an Embassy appointed by the Chinese Government which should be free from the defects that have invalidated the efforts of the two previous Chinese peace missions. The *Kobe Chronicle* remarks:—"That the Peking Government are urgently in need of some assistance to enable them to understand the position seems certain, but it may be doubted whether Mr. FOSTER is likely to succeed where other foreign advisers, thoroughly acquainted with Chinese methods, have failed. The obstinacy and purlblindness of the Tsung-li Yamen is extraordinary, even for China." But experience is a hard teacher and in view of the course of events at Weihaiwei we may suppose that the Chinese are at last sincerely desirous of peace, and as Japan has said that she is willing to treat with properly accredited envoys, it may be that the termination of the war is after all not so very far off.

## LI HUNG-CHANG AS A PEACE AMBASSADOR.

(18th February.)

China has not allowed much time to elapse between the failure of her second peace mission and the appointment of a third. A Reuter's telegram informs us that LI HUNG-CHANG's honours have been restored to him and that he has been summoned to Peking prior to his starting for Japan to renew peace negotiations. There can be no doubt now that China is sincerely desirous of peace and after the failure of the two previous missions she is not likely to again make the mistake of issuing insufficient credentials to her representative. She has, moreover, selected for the mission the most representative, strongest, and best known of her states-

man, the Viceroy LI HUNG-CHANG, who has been termed the Bismarck of China. Li we believe to be a self-seeking man imbued with all the vice of Chinese officialdom and having little in common with the great German statesman with whom he has been compared by an ingenious but inaccurate phrase maker. Nevertheless he is in his way an undoubtedly great man, with a strong will and a clear head, and is the best man that could have been selected for the business that is now entrusted to him. He knows China's weakness and will be unhampered by any foolish misconceptions as to the country's ability to withstand by force the march of the invader, and as the Japanese can take no exception to his selection and his credentials will presumably be found in order the negotiations will be brought to a definite issue one way or the other. Japan's demands, at present unknown, will be formulated, and they will have to be accepted or rejected by China. They will have to be very exorbitant indeed to make China determine on a continuation of the struggle, and the chances are therefore in favour of the conclusion of peace, though that result cannot at present be looked upon as absolutely assured. Japan's terms, whether accepted now or only after a further struggle, are sure to include a considerable opening up of China to foreign trade and enterprise.

## THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK MEETING.

The shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank were in great good humour at the half-yearly meeting of that institution on Saturday. And with good reason, for the Bank is in an excellent position; it has been successfully steered through one of the most acute and prolonged financial crises ever known, and there is a general feeling abroad that we are now on the threshold of a period of prosperity which will make up for the lean years of the recent past. The shareholders get an increase of 5s. in their dividend and in their gladness of heart they increased the directors' remuneration and sanctioned a bonus to the staff. Good work deserves recognition and there is little to cavil at in what was said and done on Saturday, though some of the shareholders may look back regretfully to the times when they received a two pound dividend with a bonus of ten shillings added, just double the present dividend. It will probably be a long time before they get a return like that again, for no doubt the recommendation of Mr. DOUGLAS JONES that not more than £3 should be paid as dividend in any one year until the reserve fund has reached a million sterling will be acted upon by the Board of Directors, the policy being a sound one. Recent experience has shown how important a large reserve fund is and the permanent interests of the shareholders will be best consulted by devoting a reasonably large proportion of the annual earnings to building up the fund to the amount mentioned by Mr. DOUGLAS JONES. At present the reserve fund stands at \$5,000,000 or rather less than half a million sterling.

Reference was made by the Chairman in his opening speech to the large accumulations of silver in the East, as evidenced by the large amount of cash in hand and the increase in the Bank's silver deposits. We would have been glad if Mr. HOLLIDAY had spoken a little more fully on this point and given some indication of the quarters from which these large deposits come and the signification attached to them by the Board. The following table showing the

deposits on the 31st December for the last ten years may be found instructive, but unfortunately it is only during the last three years that the silver and gold deposits have been shown separately.

Year.	Silver.	Deposits Sterling.	Total.
1885.....	...	...	\$65,615,078
1886.....	...	...	69,866,901
1887.....	...	...	70,996,295
1888.....	...	...	76,745,737
1889.....	...	...	81,289,205
1890.....	...	...	103,112,514
1891.....	...	...	114,631,017
1892.....	\$53,980,217	\$35,999,831	89,980,047
1893.....	59,343,300	30,361,374	89,707,630
1894.....	73,654,339	30,816,414	104,300,753

During 1892 there was a large withdrawal of gold deposits, owing to the failure of the Australian banks having rendered bank deposits rather an unpopular form of investment at home, and in the case of the Eastern Banks a feeling of uneasiness was introduced by the rapid fall in the gold value of silver and the supposed strain that would be placed upon the banks by having to bring home silver at ruinous rates to repay the sterling deposits. It was then explained that all the gold deposits of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank were retained in London to meet the Bank's requirements in London and that consequently there was no loss on exchange, and since then the silver and gold deposits have been shown separately in the accounts. The increase in the silver deposits during the last three years is remarkable. During the whole of that period complaints of bad trade have been rife and the difficulty of obtaining financial accommodation even on the best securities has been very considerable. This applies not only to Hongkong in particular but to the Far East in general, and, in fact, in a greater or less degree, to the whole world. Yet during those years the silver deposits of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank have increased very largely. Where has the money come from? It has not been withdrawn from trade, nor would the savings or profits of the European communities of Hongkong and the various places in the Far East where the bank has branches suffice to account for it. It must be supposed, therefore, that the Bank is being largely availed of by native capitalists and bankers for the purpose of safely placing their funds. A large amount of capital is thus rendered available for use in trade and we may hope that there will soon be a more sensible relief of the long continued financial stringency than has yet been experienced.

## FRANCE AND SIAM.

Reuter's recent message to the effect that a conflict had occurred between French troops and Siamese at Kammaun, on the left bank of the Mekong, in which a French officer was severely wounded, is anything but reassuring. If the report be true it is certain that France will demand satisfaction and the affair may lead to a renewal of the Franco-Siamese difficulty which was supposed to have been settled by the treaty concluded eighteen months ago. It is possible, indeed, that France might be disposed to welcome any plausible pretext for reopening her old dispute with Siam. At the time the treaty was concluded many Frenchmen regarded it with disfavour and thought the settlement arrived at unsatisfactory, that France had not exacted all she might have done nor all she was entitled to. More especially was the failure to dispossess Siam of the provinces of Angkor and Battambang condemned. If Siam has exceeded her rights, therefore, or been guilty of any act of treachery or ill-faith, she may have to pay dearly for it. It is not likely that the King or his responsible Ministers would directly sanction any act cal-



culated to endanger the peace of the kingdom, for the lesson of two years ago was too painful a one for them to willingly risk a repetition of it, but some over-zealous mandarin may have led them into a difficulty for which the Government will be held responsible, and in that case France would not be satisfied with the mere punishment of the particular official concerned in the affair. The telegram leaves us in considerable doubt, however, as to what has really taken place, and it is possible that the whole report may be found to be baseless. The trouble is said to have taken place at Kammaun, on the left bank of the Mekong. By the Treaty and Convention signed at Bangkok on the 3rd October, 1893, Siam renounced "all pretension to the whole of the territories on the left bank of the Mekong and to the islands in the river" and agreed that the Siamese military posts on the left bank and on the islands should be evacuated within a month from the date of signature. The evacuation was understood to have duly taken place and it is not easy to see how any conflict could now have taken place in the district mentioned in the telegram, seeing that there are, or ought to be, no Siamese troops there. The name Kammaun is apparently a different form of transliterating the name of the province or place referred to in the Convention as Cammon and in the PHRA YOT trial as Khammoun. It will be remembered that it was while the Siamese troops under PHRA YOT were being escorted across the frontier of that province by a small French force under Inspector GROSSEURIN in May, 1893, that GROSSEURIN was killed in a conflict that arose. It was provided in the Convention that the authors of that affair should be punished, and PHRA YOT was afterwards placed on his trial and sentenced to twenty years' hard labour. The province was entirely occupied by the French after the departure of the Siamese troops and the statement that another conflict has recently occurred there is therefore antecedently improbable. We may be mistaken in the identification of the particular place referred to in the telegram, but as it is stated to be on the left bank of the river, and the Siamese are supposed to have evacuated the whole of the territory on that bank, the antecedent improbability of the alleged conflict remains the same.

#### THE UNOFFICIAL ELEMENT IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The unofficial element in the Hongkong Legislative Council has in some unaccountable way incurred the disapproval of the *N. C. Daily News*, which condemns it root and branch. The Legislative Council, our contemporary tells us, is a mistake in principle. That is rather a bold thing to say, for if the doctrine be accepted as regards this colony it must be accepted equally as regards other Crown colonies similarly circumstanced, such as the Straits Settlements and Ceylon, not to speak of Mauritius and the West Indian colonies. We are, in fact, asked to believe that the whole system of British rule amongst native races is a mistake and that things would go much better if a high official conducted the affairs of each colony according to his own unaided lights instead of seeking the counsel and advice of the British settlers. The leader writer of the *N. C. Daily News*, we venture to think, will stand alone in holding such an opinion. How can it be supposed, for instance, that in passing laws for this colony in relation, say, to merchant shipping, the Governor would be better able to do what is right and proper were the advice of the unofficial members of Council

dispensed with? The *bêtises*, to use our contemporary's term, of which the unofficial members may at times have been guilty weigh but as a feather against the good they have done in giving the Government the benefit of their local knowledge and commercial experience. We have not been able to agree with the unofficial members on every occasion on which they have opposed the Government, but in discussing the advantage of their presence in Council as a matter of principle it is impossible to arrive at any but one conclusion. Neither the home nor the local Government would like to accept the responsibility of carrying on the administration without the assistance of unofficial advisers, and it would be a bad day for the colony if circumstances should ever arise to render such a course necessary.

Perhaps our Northern contemporary may say we are giving a strained interpretation to its contention. The greater part of the article is, it is true, devoted to showing the unsuitability of popular representation to a community such as that of Hongkong, but there is no mistake as to the sweeping nature of the concluding sentences, which read—"The Legislative Council is a mistake in principle, and until we see reason to the contrary we must continue to believe that the affairs of Hongkong would be better administered under a strong Governor with Downing Street behind him as a court of appeal." We hope we have shown in the preceding paragraph the required "reason to the contrary" and that our contemporary will now turn from the error of his ways and cease to revile the unofficial members of the Hongkong Legislative Council. Against his remarks on the unsuitability of popular representative government to a colony like Hongkong there is less to be said, but popular representative government is a very different thing from the selection, either by election or nomination, of a few leading men to act as counsellors and advisors. In the petition of the Hongkong ratepayers to the House of Commons with reference to the constitution of the colony it was fully recognised that in a colony so peculiarly situated on the borders of a great Oriental Empire, and with a population largely composed of aliens whose traditional and family interests and racial sympathies largely remain in that neighbouring Empire, special legislation and guardianship are required. Having regard to the Imperial position of a colony which is at once a frontier fortress and a naval depot, the headquarters of Her Majesty's fleet, and the base for naval and military operations in these Far Eastern waters, it was not expected that unrestricted power should be given to any local legislature, or that the Queen's Government could ever give up the paramount control of this important dependency. All the petitioners claimed was the common right of Englishmen to manage their local affairs and control the expenditure of the colony where Imperial considerations are not involved.

This common right is enjoyed by the residents at Shanghai, where there is a Municipal Council described by the *N. C. Daily News* as "a local committee with powers to levy certain taxes on the community and expend them for the common weal," and concerning which our contemporary says that "upon the whole their modest powers have been used with discreet energy which has commanded general admiration." A Municipal Council is what we have always maintained is required for Hongkong, and were such a body in existence no doubt it would prove itself as useful as the Shanghai Council. The promoters of the petition, however, were of

opinion that the desired control of local affairs would be best secured by a majority of unofficial members in the Legislative Council. This would be an undoubted advantage, though not so great an advantage, in our view, as a Municipal Council exercising executive control over its own officials. A Legislative Council with a majority of unofficial members would, however, exercise control over the expenditure and would determine the character of the legislation dealing with municipal affairs, which would in itself be a great gain. It is not to be supposed that the entire destiny of the colony would be left to the handful of British residents, but there is no reason why in a British colony the British residents should not be allowed an effective voice in the control of local affairs. The power of the Queen in Council to make laws for the Island, and the fact that all local laws are subject to disallowance by Her Majesty on the recommendation of Her Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, affords sufficient protection against any misuse of an unofficial majority in the Legislative Council might at any time make of their power.

#### WESTERN INVENTIONS IN CHINA.

How little hold Western inventions and improvements obtain in China is well illustrated at the present moment. Almost side by side appear in the Shanghai papers announcements that, on the one hand, a railway is to be made from Tientsin to the Yangtze owing to the facility with which troops and munitions have been transported to Shanhai-kwan by the existing railway, and, on the other hand, a memorial has been presented to the Emperor denouncing the use of modern rifles and praying that orders be given for the manufacture of muzzle-loading rifles and long ginals of the ancient type. At first sight these two movements appear strangely contradictory, and while the first seems to indicate a genuine desire to move with the times, the other shows a wish to hark back to ancient ways. Yet as a matter of fact neither conclusion is strictly correct. The proposal to construct a railway from Tientsin to the central provinces is only due to the pressure of necessity. China has lost the command of the sea, the Grand Canal furnishes a very slow means of communication, and the mandarins in the north see the possibility of their being soon cut off from all intercourse with the south. They now recognise, when too late, the value of the railway as a reliable means of rapid communication by which battalions of troops and masses of stores and ammunition can be transported. If they could lay a railway to-morrow from Peking right through China to Canton they probably would be eager to do so. Necessity is a hard but effective teacher. But while they are prepared to acknowledge, in this present emergency, the value of the neglected and despised Western invention they do not desire it for the good it may do the country, for the benefit it may confer on commerce, or the value it will be to the people. All they think of in connection with it is the use it would be from a military point of view. That fact has, however, long been recognised at Peking, but the Chinese Authorities were disinclined to undertake the construction of lines because the work involved the importation of the materials from foreign countries, and they recoiled from sending silver out of the country. CHANG CHIH-TUNG was therefore authorised to try his costly experiments for the winning of Chinese iron from the hills of Hupeh and the conversion of it into rails for the permanent way of the proposed lines. The years meantime rolled by, and while



the mines were being exploited and the works erected at Hanyang the much needed trunk line remained untouched. The day has come when this line is a vital necessity, but it is still non-existent, and the Peking Government must sorely regret having listened to the patriotic but unpractical suggestions of the Viceroy of the Hukwang.

But, as we have said, the determination to push on with the railway southwards towards Shanghai, the commercial centre of China, is not so much a proof of progress as a sign of exigency if not of despair. The mistake of so long deferring the work is now plainly seen because the necessity for such communication is pressing daily on the notice of the Government. Similarly the memorial condemning modern weapons is no great proof of a desire to revert to old methods. It is due simply to the fact that a great proportion of the new rifles have been rubbish and that they were supplied with defective cartridges or of another pattern to the gun. Moreover, the so-called soldiers have not, in the majority of cases, been trained to the proper use of such arms. At Pingyang many of the Chinese troops threw away these useless weapons and took to spears, with which they rushed on the Japanese, of course to their own speedy discomfiture. Even the few troops that had been provided with good rifles and sufficient ammunition were not taught to keep them in order and they very soon allowed them to rust and spoil. No wonder that ignorant quill drivers should come to imagine that it is the weapons rather than the soldiers that are at fault and that they have been instrumental in securing the defeat of China's legions. They only know that the old ginseng played a prominent part in the overthrow of the Ming dynasty, and they believe that with similar weapons the Chinese troops might be more successful now. This is proof of ignorance rather than of retrogression. The truth is that there has never yet been any real progress in China, and under the existing regime there never will be, except such as is forced upon the authorities. They neither covet railways, armoured vessels, or modern weapons save and except as means towards one end—that of keeping all other nations at arm's length. Fortunately for the Chinese people, however, their rulers will not be permitted to stand still. Fate is too strong even for Chinese conservatism, and, like all the rest of the world, the Chinese will have to go forward. Railways and other improvements will be introduced into the Celestial Empire because they are a necessity and in spite of mandarin antipathy to them as pioneers of a new and better order of things. The time for fighting against this innovation has gone by, we believe, for ever.

#### THE SALE OF SPURIOUS SPIRITS.

The difficulty experienced in preventing the sale of spirits of doubtful quality is not peculiar to Hongkong. A short time ago Mr. Crow, the Government Analyst, dealt with this subject in an address to the "Odd Volumes" Society, in the course of which he mentioned that chemical analysis was practically useless for determining the quality of liquor. Brandy or whisky, sold at twenty cents a bottle, will pass the analyst's test, although it is evident from the price that the stuff cannot be what it professes to be; some of it, indeed, does not profess to be anything in particular, as, for instance, "Best Highland Whisky made in Germany." The low price at which such liquor is retailed, there being in this colony no duty to enhance its cost, encourages its consumption in large quantities, especially by soldiers and sailors, who, under its maddening influence, are fre-

quently led into crime. The rowdyism by which a section of the Rifle Brigade are prejudicing the good name of the Regiment may doubtless be traced to this cause. The imposition of a duty would increase the cost, but it would have no effect in raising the quality of the liquor imported. Although the duty would strike good and bad liquor in the same amount, and so lessen the difference in their relative cost, the cheaper would still be selected by men whose object is to get drunk at the least possible expense. Supposing the duty amounted to twenty cents a bottle; twenty cent whisky would then sell for forty cents, and forty cent whisky for sixty cents, making the difference in price to the consumer only fifty per cent. instead of a hundred per cent., but the cheaper liquor would still be preferred by the men who now consume it. Liquor is cheaper in Hongkong than in most places, owing to the absence of any duty upon it, but whether it is much inferior in quality is, we think, doubtful. Even in England spirits of very inferior quality are retailed. "A Magistrate of twenty-seven years' standing" writes a letter to *The Times* in which he says:—"I do not think the beer usually sold in public-houses is deleterious, but the spirits, specially the whisky, is often vile. Yet when submitted to analysis, as I have seen scores of samples, the only complaint as to adulteration is that of adulteration by water—the one harmless, if not beneficial. Adulterating fluid. We have given public-houses a virtual monopoly; is it too much to insist that the spirit sold is good and as wholesome as it can be, even if dear? And the dearthness is rather useful than otherwise. Why should we allow publicans to recoup themselves for the exorbitant prices charged by the owners of the houses by retailing this filthy and poisonous cheap spirit—a fertile source of maddening drunkenness and perhaps of disease?" Unfortunately the writer of the letter does not suggest any means by which the sale of the class of spirit to which he refers could be prevented. If scientific analysis does not supply a sufficient test to determine between good and bad spirit, what more can be done? It might be theoretically possible to trace the origin of all the liquor publicly sold and to deal with the question on that basis, but in practice it would be absolutely impossible. We have more faith in the spread of moral education and in the operations of the various societies that exist for the promotion of sobriety, whether amongst soldiers in particular or the people at large, than we would have in legislative enactments framed to regulate the quality of the liquor sold. That of course is a different question from limiting the number of public houses or placing the liquor traffic entirely under state management. The last named project is at present being seriously discussed in England, and as to the desirability of limiting the number of public houses there can hardly be two opinions, but any attempt to regulate the quality of the liquor sold, so long as the traffic is in private hands would be foredoomed to failure if carried beyond the point at which scientific analysis ceases to be of use. As to imposing taxation, the benefit from a temperance point of view would be small if any and certainly would be far from sufficient to compensate for the expense and annoyance which would be entailed by the collection of such a tax in a place like Hongkong, where there is, fortunately for trade, no Customs service.

The *Altonower*, just taken over by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, has been re-christened the *Yei-jomaru*. Captain Barstow is in command.

## THE WAR.

### REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LONDON, 13th February.

A Japanese despatch from Weihaiwei on the 9th instant states that on that date the forts on the island of Liukungtao and the Chinese fleet were unsubdued.

The cruiser *Ching Yuen* was sunk on the 9th by shells fired from the captured forts.

LONDON, 14th February.

In view of the conflicting reports from Weihaiwei, the following is the present situation:—

The forts on the mainland have been taken and those on the island of Liukungtao silenced. The Chinese ships *Ting Yuen*, *Ching Yuen*, *Lai Yuen*, and *Wei Yuen* have been sunk, and thirteen torpedo boats destroyed or captured; the remainder of the warships, including the *Chen Yuen*, and the forts in Liukungtao are holding out. Admiral Ting has sent a gunboat with a flag of truce offering to surrender on condition that the lives of the sailors, soldiers, and foreigners at Weihaiwei are guaranteed.

LONDON, 15th February.

The Chinese Envoys in Japan in obedience to fresh orders have quitted Japan.

LONDON, 16th February.

Li Hung-chang's honours have been restored to him, and he has been summoned to Peking prior to his starting to Japan to renew peace negotiations.

LONDON, 18th February.

Admiral Ting and the Commandant of the island of Liukungtao have committed suicide.

The surrender of Weihaiwei is complete. The Chinese soldiers and sailors and the foreigners (with the exception of the American subject Howie) have been liberated.

The Chinese attacked Haicheng on the 16th instant and were repulsed with heavy loss.

We take the following items, some of which are given as official telegrams and others special telegrams, from the *N. C. Daily News*:—

#### JEALOUSY OF FOREIGNERS.

Tientsin, 8th February, 10 p.m.

General von Hanneken asked permission to lead a force to relieve Weihaiwei, which was granted by Prince Kung, but nothing was done owing to Hu Yü-fen, ex-Kuangsi Judge, immediately memorialising the Throne that it would be dangerous to place military power in foreigners' hands. Jealousy was the cause of the memorial. Hu is allowed to memorialise personally, hence Viceroy Li had no opportunity to prevent the foolish memorial from reaching the Throne.

#### THE CHINESE LOSSES.

Chefoo, 9th February, 2 p.m.

The Chefoo Taotai has received news that the *Chenyuen*, ironclad, *Chingyuen*, steel cruiser, and *Kuangping*, wooden torpedo cruiser, are safe and unharmed. The *Tsiyuen*, steel cruiser, and *Pingyuen*, armoured cruiser, are badly damaged but safe. In passing Chefoo Japanese ships fired at the forts and the fire was returned. Governor Li is now in the vicinity of Laichow.

#### PRISONERS AND REFUGEES.

Chefoo, 10th February, 9 p.m.

The Chinese captured twenty-three Japanese mounted scouts this morning, 18 miles south of Chefoo. Governor Li seems bent on indiscriminate decapitation. He has been trying to decapitate the telegraphic manager and clerk of Weihaiwei village, who, it seems, decamped only when they found the place deserted by the troops defending it. So far these latest victims of impotent rage have evaded the men sent after them.

Commodore Tsai Ting-kan of the Chinese torpedo fleet is one of the very few who escaped capture or death at the hands of the Japanese, in the recent unfortunate sortie of the Chinese torpedo boats from Weihaiwei. He is now in Chefoo.

#### THE PEIYANG FLEET.

The following is a summary of war telegrams received by the Shanghai mandarins from the North during the last few days:—

With the exception of the *Tingyuen* and the *Laiyuen*, *Weiyuen*, and two other ships of smaller size which have been sunk, the rest of the Peiyang fleet is still at Liukungtao island assisting in its defence and fighting bravely. The *Tingyuen*, although considerably damaged in the stern by a torpedo has not sunk, but has been



beached and a number of her guns are still serviceable and have been used since the disaster. The *Chenyuen* is now the flagship, with Admiral McClure chief in command on shore and afloat. The sortie made the other night was by a number of our torpedo boats which went out to try to torpedo some of the enemy's large cruisers lying quite near the western entrance, but, unfortunately, the attempt proved futile, and the retreat to Liukungtao was blocked by superior numbers. There was nothing left but flight, although two of the enemy's torpedo boats were destroyed at the beginning of the fight. Thirteen torpedo boats made the sortie, only two returning in safety.

#### THE CHEFOO FORTS.

The East forts are thirty li distant from the port of Chefoo and some of the Japanese ships when passing the place fired at the forts, the fire being returned. Two shots struck an enemy's ship and then the rest made off. The forts are too far from the foreign settlement for the cannonading to have done any harm to the latter.

Lungmen, fifty li from Chefoo, has been attacked by a Japanese squadron conveying a number of transports. The enemy apparently intend to make a landing here in order to take Chefoo in the rear. The roads between Weihaiwei, Ninghai, and Chefoo are still held by a large force of Chinese, who are trying to block the enemy's advance northwards.

#### JAPANESE INTENTIONS.

The high dignitaries of the North have received reliable information to the effect that the Japanese finding themselves unequal to the task of fighting their way to Peking by way of Shanhaikuan, or the eastern route, owing to the vast superiority in numbers of the Chinese army between Shanhaikuan and their objective, have decided to take the western, or Shantung route, to get to Peking. Large numbers of the enemy's troops are therefore now being withdrawn from Manchuria for Shantung to reinforce those at present in that province.

An official telegram from Tientsin states that the retreat of Governor Li and his army to Lai-chow was in obedience to an Imperial decree of the 6th instant, ordering him to mass the Shantung troops in the vicinity of that city, which is on the high-road to Peking.

#### ADMIRAL TING'S CONDITION.

Chefoo, 11th February, 5 p.m.

Several scouts arriving from Weihaiwei declare that Admiral Ting, though very seriously wounded, is still alive and in spite of medical advice to keep quiet for a few days persists in going about supported by a couple of servants, attending to the defence of the port. Weihaiwei is making a very good defence yet and besides the remaining vessels of the Peiyang fleet there are still eight torpedo boats of the A class in the harbour to assist the fleet.

#### LIUKUNGTAO HOLDING OUT.

12th February, 8 a.m.

Scouts returning from Weihaiwei report that on the 11th all was safe at Weihaiwei. The remainder of the Peiyang fleet, eight in number, and six torpedo boats were still defending Liukungtao Island. There are yet two forts close to the western entrance, armed with our best guns, still in our hands, although two more at a distance south-westwards, near Weihaiwei town, have been taken by the enemy; these forts are, however, destroyed.

#### ALLEGED RUNAWAYS.

12th February, 9 a.m.

Wong Ting-yun, lieutenant in command of a Chinese torpedo boat, and Mu Chin-shu, first lieutenant on board of *Tingyuen*, flagship, both natives of Tientsin, left by one of the merchant steamers for Shanghai. They are now wanted for having made false reports to the Chefoo Taotai concerning the loss of Liukungtao Island, the death of Admiral Ting, and that the Japanese were in full advance for Chefoo. Owing to their false reports the Governor, Li Ping-heug, was persuaded by the local mandarins at Chefoo to withdraw all his troops from the vicinity of that port, in order to avoid giving the enemy the excuse to attack Chefoo. The Chefoo Taotai Liu and General Sun, however, declared their intention to remain at their posts till the last.

Shanghai, 13th February.

The *Liuyu* arrived at Shanghai on Monday night and was immediately boarded by officials from the city for the purpose of arresting two Chinese who were said to have run away from Weihaiwei. It appears that the Chefoo Taotai

telegraphed to Shanghai that the men wanted were on board the *Liuyu*, and that they were to be arrested. In consequence of this the native authorities called in the aid of the French police and the German Consulate, the vessel being under the German flag and berthed on the French Concession. As a matter of fact, however, the vessel did not go alongside the wharf but made fast to a buoy in the stream. The men were named in the warrant Wang Teng-jun and Mu Chin-shu, lieutenants in the Peiyang squadron, and they are accused of running away and spreading false reports. A search for these men commenced on Monday night, but up till 2 a.m. yesterday they had not been found. The search recommenced at 7 a.m. with a similar result. One of the men was undoubtedly on board after the *Liuyu* left Chefoo, and it is supposed that he jumped overboard in the river and so escaped. Up till late yesterday afternoon Chinese soldiers were still on board the steamer. The *Liuyu* brought down eleven foreign and over three hundred Chinese passengers from Chefoo, including some of the foreigners who had been employed at Weihaiwei before the Japanese attack. A large number of Japanese men-of-war were seen off the Promontory and torpedo boats were cruising about. One of the latter overhauled and signalled the *Liuyu*, asking where she was from and who her passengers were. The *Tingyuen* has settled on the ground and when last seen all her guns were above water and she was a veritable stationary battery. All the foreigners at Liukungtao, some nine in number, were safe when the *Liuyu* left Chefoo; none had been killed, the reports that had been circulated of their deaths, including Admiral Ting's death, having emanated from the men who ran away to Chefoo. According to people who profess to know, Admiral Ting fought like a hero, and although he has lost most of his torpedo boats and has only some four large ships left, he seems determined to fight to the bitter end.

#### THE ASSAULT ON WEIHAIWEI.

We take the following telegram from the *China Gazette*:—

Weihaiwei via Japan, 9th February.

At 4 p.m. on the 6th instant Admiral Ito, commanding the Japanese fleet off Weihaiwei, despatched the following intelligence, which was sent to Port Arthur in the *Edo-maru*. On the night of the 4th instant the first Japanese torpedo flotilla was sent to guard the western entrance to Weihaiwei, and after the moon set the second and third torpedo divisions entered the harbour by the eastern entrance, carefully picking their way through the space between the floating obstructions. The little vessels immediately attacked the Chinese ships at anchor inside. The *Tingyuen* was certainly torpedoed in the first attack and the bottom of the *Chingyuen* (?) appeared to be badly damaged by the same cause. Of the Japanese torpedo squadron boat No. 8 received several shots in her engine-room, killing all that were there at the time, and some of the other boats, on their return to the Japanese fleet, got aground in the spaces between the floating obstructions and were partially sunk under the Chinese fire. Lieutenant Sazuki and two Japanese sailors were subsequently frozen to death in their exposed position, and one sailor of the same party was wounded. Torpedo boats Nos. 8 and 14 were considerably damaged, having broken either their rudders or propellers by striking against rocks or floating obstructions in the harbour. Torpedo boat No. 6 was struck by 46 projectiles, all either from rifles or small machine-guns, and in addition received one Hotchkiss shell. Torpedo boat No. 10 was struck by ten bullets, and other boats sustained more or less damage from shots, although there was no further loss of life from direct fire.

On the night of the 5th instant the second and third Japanese torpedo flotillas were sent to guard the western entrance to the harbour, whilst the first flotilla as soon as the moon set entered through the spaces between floating obstructions. Torpedo boats No. 23 (Lieutenant Kotaka commanding) and No. 11 discharged seven torpedoes which sank the *Chiyuen* (or *Chenyuen*), the *Weiyuen*, and one gun boat. There was no loss to the Japanese either in boats or men.

Torpedo boats Nos. 8 and 14 have been towed by the *Yayeyama-kan* to Port Arthur for repairs.

All day on the 5th instant the Japanese fleet guarded the outside of Weihaiwei carefully, and it is expected that to-morrow they will bom-

bard the islands of Liukungtao and Jih, conjointly with the land forts. The forts at the western entrance to the harbour are not serviceable and a Japanese naval force which was landed and sent in that direction has returned to the ships. The forts at the eastern entrance, besides the guns enumerated by chief of the staff Dewa, in his despatch dated the 4th instant, contain two 24 c.m., one 15 c.m., and two 12 c.m., guns, which will be of use to the Japanese marines.

Weihaiwei, via Japan, 9th February.

General Dewa, chief on the Japanese staff, in his despatch sent from Weihaiwei on the 4th instant, says that on January 30th, as the third Japanese torpedo flotilla was attempting to enter the harbour, the land forts which had been taken by the Japanese troops opened fire on her in mistake for a Chinese boat.

On January 31st the Japanese had decided and made every arrangement to enter the port, but strong winds and rain prevented the operation from being carried out, and the Japanese fleet retired to Yungching Gulf. On February 1st the wind decreased slightly and on the following day the Japanese ships left the Gulf. They sustained no damage through the weather, but, as a matter of course, the hulls of the vessels, chiefly of the gunboats and torpedo boats, and even the guns themselves, were covered with ice from three to five inches thick. On the 3rd instant the second, third, and fourth Japanese flying squadrons attacked the forts on Liukungtao and Jih islands. The *Tsukushi-kan* was struck by one shot which killed two of her people and wounded some others. Several of the Chinese ships in the port attacked the forts on the eastern shore which were in the possession of the Japanese and on the same night the Japanese torpedo boats attempted to rush through the entrance, but the floating obstructions and the strict guard kept by the Chinese prevented the movement being carried out. The flotilla, however, succeeded in destroying most of the obstructions and to-night they will attempt the destruction of the remainder. Today a number of Japanese marines were sent to the forts off the western entrance, and commenced bombarding the Chinese ships. The serviceable guns in the forts commanding the eastern entrance are three 24 c.m., two 21 c.m., and one 15 c.m. On the 30th ultimo one of the 24 c.m. guns in the captured forts was destroyed by a shell from a Chinese ship, which also killed two Japanese and wounded two others, one of the latter being mortally hurt.

Weihaiwei, via Japan, 11th February.

The Chinese ships sunk or torpedoed on or before the 5th instant are the *Tingyuen*, *Laiyuen*, and *Weiyuen*. The *Tingyuen* was torpedoed and then run aground. The ships which contrived to get out of the harbour, but were afterwards sunk by the Japanese quick-firing guns, were ten torpedo-boats and one steam-launch. Admiral Ting is very probably in the *Chenyuen*, which has again been very heavily damaged. She is slowly steaming about in the inside of the harbour, firing only her smaller guns. When the Japanese were bombarding Liukungtao and Jih island from the forts which they had captured, the Chinese ships after an obstinate resistance took shelter in the harbour of Liukungtao. The Chinese ships remaining in the port are four cruisers and six small gunboats. Liukungtao is very probably taken by this time. The Chinese prisoners say all the ships are badly damaged.

Tai Taotai has committed suicide.

When the booms are removed and the Japanese ships are enabled to enter the harbour the remaining Chinese vessels will be at their mercy.

On the 7th instant the magazine at Jih island was exploded by Japanese shells.

Weihaiwei, via Japan, 12th February.

The Chief of the Naval Staff telegraphed as follows at 3 p.m. on the 9th instant:—

At 8 a.m. to-day the forts bombarded the Chinese ships in Weihaiwei harbour. The third Japanese flying squadron fired at the eastern fort of Liukungtao island for the purpose of checking its fire. The second flying squadron assisted. The Chinese ships retired towards Weihaiwei, but reappearing shortly after opened fire again.

Two shells from the Luchiatsoi fort, which is under the command of Lieutenant Narita, sank the cruiser *Chingyuen*, which went down head first, her screws showing as she plunged down. The mortars in the forts at the western



entrance, which are in the hands of the Japanese are bombarding Huang island.

Last night, without encountering any resistance, the Japanese destroyed the booms in the harbour for a distance of about 400 metres from the eastern shore, and to-night they will set about destroying more obstructions.

There has been no firing from the Jih forts to-day, and they are very probably evacuated.

Of some ten torpedoes captured by the Japanese three were taken last night. The remainder are now being floated by the fourth Japanese flying squadron. Since the Japanese torpedo boats escaped from the harbour the Chinese are firing their machine guns every night regardless of whether the Japanese torpedo-boats are attacking or not.

### TROUBLE IN FORMOSA.

#### MEN-OF-WAR DESPATCHED FOR THE PROTECTION OF FOREIGNERS.

Serious trouble of some kind has broken out in Formosa and men-of-war are being sent for the protection of foreign life and property. Various rumours have been in circulation as to the character of the trouble, one being that Liu Jung-fu's Black Flags had mutinied and were pillaging the country. Liu, it will be remembered, was some time ago sent to Formosa and took some of his old followers with him. The report that the trouble arises from that quarter seems, however, to rest on nothing more than surmise. Owing to the regulations now enforced by the Chinese authorities with regard to the use of the cable no private messages have been received in connection with the affair.

The naval authorities here know nothing of the particulars of the rising, but there is at present great activity being displayed on most of the men-of-war in harbour, and in case of emergency they will be ready to proceed to sea at a very short notice. It seems that the first notification received here of the rising was a telegram despatched from Formosa by the English Consul at Takow, who wired "Protection urgently required." Immediately after the receipt of this telegram H.M.S. *Mercury*, second class cruiser, sailed for Formosa, and H.M.S. *Rattler*, gunboat, will follow her in a day or two. The *Spartan* will probably leave as well, and other boats are being prepared for sea as quickly as possible.

### MURDER IN KOWLOON.

#### AN INDIAN SOLDIER SHOT.

#### ARREST OF HIS COMRADE.

At nine o'clock on Thursday night an Indian soldier, Havildar Uramz Khan, of the Hongkong Regiment, was shot in the left side, and suffered injuries from which he died at eight o'clock yesterday morning. The circumstances attaching to the murder are at present not fully known, and the police are engaged in pursuing their inquiries into the affair. Before he died the murdered man said that a comrade named Nawab Shah, had shot him in the breast with a revolver, and, on the strength of this dying statement, Nawab Shah was arrested in the barracks. But it is not yet clear whether Nawab Shah did commit the murder; some of the Indians in the barracks assert that he was in his room when the shot was fired. The facts, as far as they can be ascertained, are as follow:—At nine o'clock Sergeant Marshall, of the Hongkong Dock Yard Police, and Mr. Wilcockson, caretaker of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute, heard the sound of a revolver shot, and upon hurrying into the Macdonnell Road, accompanied by two or three members of the Rifle Brigade, found the wounded man lying in the road about fifty yards north of the Institute. He was picked up and conveyed as quickly as possible to the Institute, where he said that he was walking along the road with Nawab Shah, when the latter suddenly drew a revolver and shot him. This statement was taken down in writing by the Indian orderly room clerk, who had turned out with other men when the alarm was given. Surgeon-Captain Borrodale was immediately sent for, and he ordered the patient to be removed to the camp hospital. The police, of

course, took steps to at once arrest Nawab Shah, who was in the barracks, and then confronted him with the dying man, who was a sergeant in the regiment. Khan, when he caught sight of the accused, who is a corporal, exclaimed "Yes, that is the man who shot me." The prisoner was then charged with the murder, when he denied all knowledge of it.

Inspector Corcoran has charge of the investigation of the crime, and his task is by no means an easy one. Except for the statement of the victim, he has no evidence that the prisoner is the murderer. The particular spot where the crime was enacted is most favourable for the commission of a crime of this sort and for the easy escape of the murderer. Running for a considerable distance along the Macdonnell Road are a large number of godowns and on the opposite side is the military ground where the barracks are situated. It is quite certain that the murderer must have escaped into the barracks, for after the shot and a loud cry of the wounded man were heard, only a few seconds elapsed ere Mr. Wilcockson and the dockyard officials were on the scene. As they came from opposite directions they could not possibly have missed the murderer if he had run along the road. It would only take three seconds for the culprit to scamper over the rough turf leading to the military barracks. He would then be safely hidden from view amongst the trees, and could without any difficulty reach the barracks again. On the arrival of the police a thorough search of the ground was made with the aid of lamps for the murderer's weapon, and Colonel Barrow personally conducted a search of the barracks, but the revolver was not found.

The murderer must have placed the mouth of the weapon quite close to the deceased, and at the left side of his back, as the victim's coat and under shirt were singed. The bullet entered near the left side and came out just below the region of the heart. Beyond the statement of the deceased the police have, as yet, no clue to work upon. It is said, however, that Nawab Shah owed the murdered man, who was the assistant gymnastic instructor, \$100, and this may afford the police some good ground to work upon. On Friday afternoon the prisoner was brought over to Hongkong and lodged at the Central Police Station.

#### OPENING OF THE INQUIRY.

On Saturday morning Mr. H. E. Wodehouse opened the official inquiry, at the Police Court, into the circumstances attending the death of Uramz Khan, a havildar in the Hongkong Regiment, who died on Friday morning last from revolver injuries alleged to have been inflicted by Nawab Shah, who also belonged to the regiment. The first witness was

Laban Goodyer, a petty officer in the Royal Navy, attached to the torpedo depot at Kowloon, who said—At 9.20 on Thursday night I was at the Naval depot when I heard a shot fired down the road, and two minutes afterwards I heard a man shout. I ran and saw three Chinamen standing in the middle of the road. They seemed to be greatly alarmed at the firing of the shot, and looked over their shoulders towards Yamati. I passed the Chinamen and went farther up the road, and saw the deceased twisting round in the middle of the road, and as I got there he fell on his back. Three members of the Rifle Brigade also came up, and also Sergeant Marshall. One of the Rifle Brigade pulled up the Indian's shirt, and saw that he was bleeding from a wound just below the left breast. The man, who was quite conscious and able to speak in his own language, was then taken to the Institute. I went for an interpreter, and whilst he was taking the statement of the deceased, the Sergeant went for a doctor. The Institute is situated at the corner of Elgin Street and Macdonnell Road, and the latter road runs parallel with the Indian Camp.

Inspector Corcoran said—I was in the Police Station at 9.45 on the 14th inst. when I was told that an Indian had been shot in Macdonnell Road. I went to the Institute, but the deceased had then been removed. The witnesses pointed out the spot where the body was found, and I made a mark on the road. I went back to the Institute, when Sergeant Marshall gave me a paper containing a statement which had been written by Mahommed Jaffa, the interpreter. (The paper was produced but not read). I sent for four large lamps, which arrived about 10.15, and we then made a search of the road for a distance of 300 yards. We found nothing to throw any light upon the

affair. We also searched the waste ground leading to the barracks. I afterwards went to the barracks and saw Colonel Barrow, who was making a search there.

Mr. Wodehouse—Was the bullet 1 ft in the person?

Witness—I do not think so; the bullet seems to have gone in the back and penetrated the left breast. There are two holes.

Mr. Wodehouse—Did you make any search for the bullet in particular?

Witness—No, your worship. Well, if it had been on the road I should have found it.

Mr. Wodehouse—It would have been well to do so, would it not? The bullet has come out of the person.

Witness—If the bullet had been there, your worship, I should have found it. I searched for anything.

Mr. Wodehouse—What you were looking for was the revolver.

Witness—Yes, and blood stains.

Mr. Wodehouse—Did you find any blood stains?

Witness—No, no mark at all. I found nothing in the road.

Mr. Wodehouse—How do you mean?

Witness—I did not find a revolver, or traces of blood, although the place was thoroughly searched; the roofs of the godowns were also searched.

Lieut.-Colonel Barrow said—On the night of the 14th inst. between 9 and 10 o'clock I was in my quarters when a report was made to me that a native soldier had been shot. I at once went up to the lines and straight to the hospital, where I saw the deceased being attended by Surgeon Captain Borrodale. The deceased, who, I think, was about 35 years of age, came to Hongkong with the regiment in May, 1892. He was a havildar in the B company, which has a mascot to itself. The shed is the upper one between the Robinson Road and the hospital. I have had pointed out to me the place where the havildar was shot, and it is about a quarter of a mile from his quarters.

Mr. Wodehouse—The deceased was dressed in a waistcoat, which was placed over white pyjamas, and brown shoes. He had no turban on. What inference do you draw from that?

Witness—The inference I draw is that the deceased did not intend to go to a place of public resort. It would appear that he had been hastily called out of the camp by somebody. He would wear that dress about the barracks. If he had arranged to go out he would have worn a more respectable coat and a turban.

Mr. Wodehouse—What do you conclude from that?

Witness—I conclude that he had been called out by someone as he was going to bed. He ought not to have been out of the barracks at the time his body was found, as the roll-call had been sounded. In order to be where he was he must have been specially called out.

Mr. Wodehouse—Do you conclude from that that he was specially called out to be shot?

Witness—I conclude that that was the case. If the man had not intended to shoot the deceased he would not have had the revolver; the man had no business to have a revolver.

Mr. Wodehouse—We do not know that it was a revolver.

Witness—Well, it might have been a pistol it was not a rifle. The doctor told me it was a pistol wound.

Mahommed Jaffa, writer to the Regiment, said—I was in my house in Elgin Street at 9.30 on the night of the 14th inst. when I heard voices. I went out, and asked deceased what was the matter with him, and he said "I am shot." I sent for a doctor, and before he came the deceased said he was shot with a revolver by Corporal Nawab Shah. He saw the revolver in the Corporal's hand. The deceased added that he was shot because Nawab Shah owed him \$100. I took down this statement in writing—I wrote it in English—and it was signed by witnesses.

James Marshall, sergeant at the Naval Yard, also spoke to hearing the shot fired, and going to the deceased. Macdonnell Road was bounded on one side by godowns and on the other by a common which led to the barracks.

Machae Bulla, whose evidence was interpreted, said he was a private in the Regiment. He knew the deceased, who one day asked Nawab Shah for \$88 which was owing to him. Up to that time the two men had been friendly, but afterwards they became unfriendly. The deceased



said he wanted the money as he was going home. Witness last saw the deceased at 6 o'clock on the 14th inst.

At this point Mr. Wodehouse adjourned the inquiry.

During the morning the prisoner, Nawab Shah, was taken before Commander W. C. H. Hastings, and formal evidence of the arrest having been given by Inspector Corcoran, he was remanded.

### AFFRAY BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND POLICE.

#### A COWARDLY ATTACK.

At 10.30 on Thursday night an Indian policeman was in Queen's Road Central, when he was called by a coolie to a half intoxicated marine, who had refused to pay him for a ricksha. The constable was about to take the marine into custody when he was struck a violent blow by the man. The policeman blew his whistle and a sergeant, also an Indian, went to his assistance. Just then, however, about twenty privates of the Rifle Brigade came up and by means of a disgraceful attack on the constable, managed to effect the rescue of the marine. The soldiers displayed their patriotism and maintained their reputation as "brave defenders of the peace" by making an ugly rush at the two constables, whom they knocked about in a cowardly manner. Missiles were also thrown from the barracks, and at length the constables, who had lost their prisoner, had to beat a retreat. A telephone message for assistance was sent to the Central Police Station, and several constables at once turned out, but by the time they arrived on the scene, the soldiers had dispersed. In the scuffle the Indian constable lost his carbine and tinbun, which were, however, found in the road some time afterwards, and also sustained cuts on his lips, while the sergeant had his eye discoloured. Fortunately one of the attacking party has been identified, and a summons, returnable for to-day at the Police Court, has been issued against him. Formerly a civil conviction against a soldier reckoned as a court-martial, but we are informed that now a civil conviction is simply recorded as a "company entry," and that it is owing to the alteration of the regulations that the soldiers let themselves run loose occasionally, and so give considerable trouble to the police authorities. Whether that be so or not, the case certainly demands a thorough investigation, and we have no doubt that the military officials deeply regret the outbreak of violence by a section of the Rifle Brigade, which is looked upon as our crack infantry regiment.

#### EXEMPLARY PUNISHMENT.

The conflict between a section of the Rifle Brigade and two Indian policemen had its sequel in the Police Court on Saturday, when Commander W. C. H. Hastings had before him Harry Holmes, private No. 106 in the Rifle Brigade, Victoria Barracks, who was charged with assaulting P.C. Singh whilst in the execution of his duty. Prisoner was further charged with assisting a prisoner to escape from custody.

P.C. Singh said that at 10.30 on the night of the 14th inst. he was on duty in Queen's Road, East, when he heard a whistle blown. He ran up, and saw P.C. 638 with a red-coated soldier in his custody. Witness took hold of the soldier, and proceeded to take him to the Police Station. When outside the Soldiers' and Sailors' Institute, about 25 members of the Rifle Brigade came out of the Institute. Defendant was amongst them, and he struck witness over the head with a stick, and discoloured his left eye. The whole of the Rifles then set about him and succeeded in rescuing the prisoner. Witness then went back to the station, and on returning with other constables, met the defendant in Queen's Road, Central, and at once recognised him. He was taken to the station, and a summons was ordered to be taken out against him.

P. S. Godson said the last witness identified the defendant without any hesitation.

For the defence a Rifle Brigade private named Jacob Vertigan was called, who said that he and the defendant were in the Institute at the time of the assault. They were drinking together.

The defendant also denied being at the row, and said it was as he was returning from the Institute that he was arrested.

The Magistrate sent the prisoner to gaol for 42 days with hard labour.

### HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on Thursday afternoon, Mr. F. H. May, Captain Superintendent of Police, presiding. There were also present Hon. F. A. Cooper, Director of Public Works, Hon. Ho Kai, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Dr. W. Hartigan, Mr. R. K. Leigh, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

#### POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

The report of the Senior Inspector on the condition of the dwellings on Inland Lot 1,018 was brought up.

The CHAIRMAN said that the report was in the members' hands only two days ago, and therefore there had not been sufficient time to consider it. He suggested that the report be discussed at the next meeting.

The suggestion was agreed to.

#### A CASE FOR INVESTIGATION.

A complaint was made by Colonel Jerrard, D.A.A.G., against the watchman of the Kowloon slaughter-house, the allegation being that on the 14th January he refused to allow a butcher supplying meat to the Hongkong Regiment to slaughter four sheep until he had been promised three carities of meat free of payment. The charge was investigated by Mr. C. V. Ladds, Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, who recommended that the services of the watchman—an Indian—be dispensed with.

The following were the minutes attached:—

Dr. Hartigan.—The charge is a serious one, and must be promptly dealt with. It would be well to circulate the two letters referred to by Mr. Francis.

Mr. J. J. Francis.—Where is Colonel Jerrard's letter of complaint? Why is it not with the papers and the letter from the Hongkong Regiment? How comes it that Mr. Ladds investigates this complaint without authority from the Board? I think the Board would certainly have recommended the military authorities to prosecute. The statement of Mr. Ladds and the watchman's letter of explanation seem to me rather to favour the watchman's statement than the Chinaman's.

Mr. Leigh.—I do not consider that this Board can, with the evidence before them, decide. Better prosecute.

The Colonial Surgeon.—I think with Mr. Francis that this is a case for prosecution and inquiry before a Magistrate.

The Captain Superintendent of Police.—Seeing that the watchman is a servant of the Board I think the matter might be referred to the Officer Commanding to prosecute if he considers there is a case.

Mr. FRANCIS.—I suggest that a communication be addressed to the military authorities stating that the Board is quite prepared to take up a formal investigation of the charge if the statements of the Chinese complainants are reduced to writing.

Dr. HARTIGAN.—I think it will be well to give the Vice-President authority to proceed on the receipt of the statements.

Mr. FRANCIS.—On the receipt of any communication from the military authorities the Vice-President may, at his discretion, take proceedings or let the matter stand over.

The suggestion was agreed to.

#### IMPERMEABLE FLOORS.

Messrs. Palmer and Turner wrote as follows:—

Hongkong, Feb. 4.  
Hugh McCallum, Esq.,  
Secy., Sanitary Board.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter of this date re impermeable floors to basement or ground floor, we would beg to amend the thickness of concrete proposed in our letter of the 17th ult., making the total thickness 6 inches instead of 9 inches, viz., 4 inches lime concrete and 2 inches lime and cement concrete finished with a smooth surface. This we think will be ample for the purpose required.—Yours faithfully,  
PALMER AND TURNER.

Appended was the following minute by the Secretary:—

I think Messrs. Palmer and Turner should be informed that their first proposal was acceded to and they must now wait for the passing of the by-laws dealing with this matter.

A similar application was also received from Messrs. Linstead and Davis.

The Board resolved to allow the applications to stand over to give time for the consideration of the by-laws. It was proposed to reduce the thickness of impermeable floors from 9 inches to 6 inches.

#### RE-DRAINING PRIVATE PREMISES.

A letter was submitted from Mr. Pestonjee Eduljee, 60, Hollywood Road, asking the Board to undertake the reconstruction of defective drains at 88, Station Street, Yaumatei, and offering to pay all the expenses incurred.

In a minute attached Mr. Crook, Sanitary Surveyor, said he was unable to undertake private work.

The following minutes were also appended:—

Mr. J. J. Francis.—The Sanitary Board has not the men nor the means to undertake this work. A Committee has already reported and the Board has accepted that report. Why is the question re-opened?

Mr. R. K. Leigh.—I do not consider the Board ought to undertake any private work, as it is likely to place them in a very false position.

It was decided that the Board could not take up the matter.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The SECRETARY reported that the death rate per thousand per annum for the week ended 2nd February was 20.6 as compared with 16.3 in the corresponding week of last year. The death rate for the week ended 9th February was 18.5 as compared with 19.2 at the corresponding time last year.

#### APPLICATION FOR LEAVE.

An application was made by Inspector Germain for leave of absence, as he was in ill-health.

Dr. HARTIGAN said that this was an awkward time for the Inspector to go away, as there were so many new Inspectors. Inspector Germain was a very good man, and it would be a mistake to make a change just now. Of course if he was really in ill-health no objection would be raised.

It was agreed to ask for a medical certificate and leave the matter in the hands of the Vice-President.

#### SMALLPOX.

The SECRETARY reported a case of smallpox which had occurred in the married quarters of the McGregor Barracks.

#### THE RE-OCCUPATION OF BASEMENT FLOORS.

Three applications were made for permission to re-occupy basement floors closed by the Permanent Committee during the plague. It was decided to inform the applicants that their cases would stand over pending the passing of the by-laws relating to the question.

### AFTER THE WAR.

#### [CONTRIBUTED.]

Now that the time seems to be drawing near when the conflict which is being carried on between China and Japan must enter upon a new phase, it will not be out of place to call attention to certain points of profound significance which are apt to be overlooked. That they should be generally overlooked can scarcely be said to be surprising. Since for our law-makers training in law and study of the effects which laws produce is not considered a pre-requisite, so neither for those whose duty it is to decide questions between societies is training in Sociology looked upon as needful. Nevertheless, by the help of this science the way to a solution of many difficult questions concerning China and her people is made plain. Here we propose to indicate, as briefly as possible, the line of action to which Sociology points as the only really permanent and satisfactory solution of one of the most difficult problems of all history.

It is now becoming more generally recognised that China is an "aggregate of the first order" in what is known as the "Oriental Stage," that is to say, during the course of her development the nation has been acted upon by so few external forces that internal activity was not maintained, and the society, following the example of ancient Peru, Mexico, Assyria, and Egypt, gradually sank into a state of rigidity, the nation—its structures and component units—being frozen into one large homogeneous mass, the result of parting with its life-heat, instead of, by sustained activity, preserving the same to itself for use in the hour of need. In consequence of this we find that many millions of men have, in many thousands of years, accomplished next to nothing in the way of civilization.

It would occupy too much space to pass in review all the various facts and inferences which go to show what a low stage China has succeeded in reaching during the many centuries of her existence as a society. These facts and some of the inferences have been collected elsewhere, and many of them are familiar to the student of Sociology. But there has recently come from quite an unexpected quarter an instance which is of great value as indicating the same truth from a new standpoint. We are accustomed to look upon the Chinese as our inferiors intellectually and morally, but hitherto no instance has been adduced showing conclusively that they are also our inferiors from the point of view of physical civilization. In a recent discussion, however, in a home periodical on the inheritance



of acquired characters, it was shown that inferior races are able to "squat", i.e., to sit on their heels, that they probably all did so originally, and that as civilization advanced those who took to sitting on chairs gradually lost this power. The Chinese, having lived for at least fifty centuries without acquiring the art of physical comfort, still possess this peculiarity. Added to their lack of intellectual attainments (as shown conspicuously in the national ignorance of geography, for example) and to the lack of moral attainments (as shown in the prevailing untruthfulness) we have now to cast in their teeth this lack of physical attainment. To the Sinomaniac who has accustomed himself to look upon the Chinese as the salt of the earth, emphasis of the existence of this biological trait, which stamps them as belonging to a low type of humanity, may sound unkind. Yet since the characteristic is self-produced, or rather since it is owing entirely to themselves that they still possess this mark of their low estate, it may legitimately be used, together with their intellectual and moral defects, to rebut any claims which the Chinese may make to be the equals or superiors of the white races. Against the triple proof furnished by Biology, Psychology, and Ethics there is no appeal.

If it be said that though the Chinese have not lost the physical peculiarity indicated they nevertheless have acquired the habit of sitting on chairs, and do sit on them occasionally, the reply is that, apart from the fact that they have not lost this physical characteristic of savages and the lower animals in so great a length of time (which is blameworthy in the eyes of civilization), so few of them do at the present day habitually assume the sitting posture in comparison with the great number who either squat or lie prostrate, that the people as a whole cannot truthfully be said to have acquired the habit. Even when resting on the edge of his *k'ang*, or brick-bed, the Chinaman shows an inclination to draw up his feet, and seems more comfortable in the position habitual to the monkey than that habitual to the civilized European.

In the same way, did space permit, we might dwell upon the relative inferiority of the Chinese in other physical qualities, as, for instance, the colour of their skin, which, whatever its cause, is generally recognized as belonging to a lower stage of social evolution than the white skin of the European and the peoples related to him; and draw from many examples of various kinds the conclusion that, when the length of the national life and the vast number of workers are taken into account, reprobation, if not ridicule, is more meet than praise or worship in view of the results achieved.

Now, white men who sit on chairs were not made to serve yellow men who squat. To place black or yellow over white is to invert the whole order of civilization. We must either serve China or be served by her. There is no other way. If it be said that the method of "helpful persuasion" implies neither the one nor the other, the reply is that it only does so in imagination and not in reality. There is no nation or body of men who will give their service and advice gratuitously to another for any length of time; and being in the pay of any nation implies superior officials who give that pay and dictate rules to be observed—implies a position of inferiority. And when the question is one not between two white races, but between several white races and one yellow race, the position becomes not only inferior but anomalous and unnatural—a state of unstable equilibrium, a pyramid poised on its apex, which nature must sooner or later set in its natural position again. It may at first sight seem a matter of but small importance that Europeans and Americans, if they like that sort of thing, should enter the employ of the Chinese as their subordinates. In so far as these foreigners themselves are concerned the matter may be of but little moment, but experience shows that the position is not looked upon in its true light, and this non-recognition or concealment of its real nature tends to originate a dissimulating character, which is dragged into everyday life in intercourse with others and so operates injuriously on the society, just in the same way that we have known a half-caste, by the constant dissimulation in word and action with which he endeavoured to conceal his Chinese parentage, gradually acquire an unreliable nature which rendered him an undesirable mem-

ber of any civilized community. Moreover, even could the Chinese be artificially or naturally raised in other ways to the level to which much hard work and thought have raised the white man, Sociology tells us that it takes several hundreds or even thousands of years to change the character of a people, and, as we shall presently see, the law of self-preservation forbids us to wait until the Chinese shall have reached a level on which they would be able to successfully compete with us in the industrial warfare wherein the nations will wholly occupy themselves when military warfare has died out. Therefore, rather than spend much labour in attempting to balance the pyramid in an unnatural position, it behoves us to see to it that we place it once for all securely on its base. This will be found to be the most economical and wisest plan in the end. And not only would its adoption solve questions now pending, but it would solve a most important question looming in the distant future. Let us see what Sociology has to say on this point.

Though stay-at-home people may believe a good many of the absurd statements respecting China's future as a military power made to them by the European press, those who have been any time in China are well aware that this people do not possess the qualities which are indispensable for a successful military career as a nation, and are not likely to acquire them for many hundreds of years to come. The Chinese will never become a race of warriors who will "die biting," as Lord Wolseley exhorts the British soldier to do. The strength of the Chinaman lies not in his predatoriness but in his peaceableness. Therefore, when war dies out amongst the highest races, as in time it must, unless a sort of general battle of Armageddon is to throw us all back into a state of savagery—for the advance of civilization means the gradual purging itself of savage traits, of which war is the most conspicuous—China and her people will be the most dangerous competitor the civilized world has yet known. Able to work all day and half the night on a very small amount of sustenance, able to live and thrive in almost all climates, content with small profits, unambitious, and not rendered unhappy by the absence of physical comforts and mental recreations he has never known, the Chinaman stands out as the very type of being most fitted to overrun the earth, not by force of arms or the roar of big guns, but by the slow sure method of peaceful perseverance and unremitting labour. Should it be said that this conclusion is not a logical one, since we have shown that China is an aggregate of like fashion to ancient Egypt, Assyria, Mexico, and other nations of the "Oriental type," and neither the Egyptians nor the Assyrians nor the Mexicans have overrun the earth by force of industry or by any other force, we reply that though similar in structure China differs from these societies in one important particular, namely, her immense mass. So large has the nation grown that it would be unreasonable to expect it to disappear from the face of the earth, as these other societies did, especially since, as far as our information goes, the population shows no signs of decreasing and will probably increase even more rapidly than at present as life-preserving arts and medical knowledge spread among the people.

This question of number it is which has given rise to what is known as the China problem. To this problem we believe the recent action of Japan has opened the way to a solution. To bolster up the present Chinese Government means not only that the proud and high-handed officials of China will continue to act towards foreigners in the same way as before (as previous wars have told us plainly enough) and that more murders will be committed and compensation be as difficult to obtain, or as unsatisfactory when obtained, as it has been all along; but it means much more than this. It means that we are nurturing in our bosom a venomous snake, which, when sufficiently warmed by the glow of our kindness, will dig its fangs deep into the very life of civilized humanity and slowly but surely poison our life-blood and paralyze our activity for ever. With those who like to contemplate the yellow races with their tinseled semi-civilization ruling the descendants of the present white races (of which state of things a small beginning may even now be perceived in the willingness of Europeans to place themselves under the orders of Chinese officials) no argument will be of any avail, but we are happy to think that

those who could tolerate the idea are but few in number and that the tendency to enter into so derogatory a servitude is but a transient one.

If, then, the assumption by us of a position of inferiority or of equality as regards the Chinese is unnatural and anomalous, and even suicidal in the long run, the only other course is the assumption of a position of superiority—we must rule. And not only must we rule, but we must take the present opportunity of asserting our rule. If we do not, the problem will only be shelved, not solved. Depend upon it, it will re-assert itself later on, and the longer it is left unsolved the more difficult will the solution become, until perhaps we may one day wake up to find that it is too late to solve it at all. And not only is our duty plain from the stand-point of protection now and of self-preservation hereafter, but it is no less plain from the stand-point of the national prosperity of those European powers who have interests in this empire. With the Chinese working under us we might find in China, by developing the vast resources of the country, a means of increasing our national prosperity to a very great extent. But the matter of self-preservation—the first law of life—is the more pressing need, and until steps have been taken to secure this once for all, discussion of subsequent proceedings is premature. As we value our civilization, therefore, and the welfare of our children's children, it behoves each one of us to do what in him lies to further those actions by which there shall ultimately be secured to the world, not the slovenly, mediocre, and unclean existence of the semi-savage, but the highest and best life of the completely civilized.

Let us note, in conclusion, that what has here been said would apply, though in a less degree, to the case of a possible Japanese occupation of China. Civilizations are not made, but grow; and young civilizations are apt to be wanting in thoroughness and show a tendency to relapse into barbarism under appropriate circumstances. But of the two evils, a Japanese government in China would be preferable to a Chinese one; and it would perhaps be best for Europe to have to face a military competitor now than an industrial one later on. The Japanese as masters of China would be willing to open up the country and trade with us; and they would also no doubt be ready to listen to us when the time came for a general disarmament. But a proper understanding and use of the opportunity now presented to the European powers would obviate both dangers.

#### REVIEW.

*Warlike Exploits of the Merchant Navy.* By J. FETHERSTONHAUGH. Hongkong: Hongkong Daily Press Office.

THE appearance of this little volume is well timed at a moment when attention is being generally attracted to the part merchant steamers can be made to play as supplemental to the Royal Navy. The Royal Naval Reserve is increasing and the number of steamers being placed on the list of armed cruisers is becoming quite formidable. That the idea of the merchant navy forming a reserve for Her Majesty's Navy is no new thing is brought forcibly to mind by a perusal of the chapters of this book, in which many moving stories of gallant deeds at sea are graphically told. It ought to have a large circulation not only among those who go down to the sea in ships but also among that very large class interested in shipping and maritime trade generally. The merchant service ought to be now, as it undoubtedly was in the times of Blake and Nelson, the nursery for the Royal Navy, and every effort should be made to bring the two services closer into line. Any work which will promote this and tend to uphold the just pride of British mariners in their noble profession should be hailed with satisfaction. Mr. Fetherstonhaugh's contribution to marine literature is calculated to have such effect, and is sure therefore to have numerous readers. The book is printed in good type and neatly got up.

James A. Frame, formerly a lion tamer, who shot a man named Watts at Yokohama a short time ago, inflicting rather severe injuries, has been sentenced by a Japanese Court to one year's imprisonment. Frame some years ago killed a man named Lemon at Shanghai.



## SUPREME COURT.

18th February.

## IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. A. G. WISE,  
ACTING PUISNE JUDGE, AND A  
COMMON JURY.

## THE FATAL AFFRAY NEAR HAPPY VALLEY.

Cheung Chun Sau was charged with the murder of Wong Kin on the 13th January last. He pleaded not guilty.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. W. H. Wickham, C. G. Engel, F. R. W. Grimble, G. Patton, C. Tomlin, A. F. Osmond, and C. F. Grossman.

The Attorney-General (Hon. W. M. Goodman), instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson, Crown Solicitor, conducted the prosecution; the accused was defended by the Hon. Ho Kai.

The Attorney-General, in opening the case, stated that on the morning of the 4th January the accused was caught stealing a quantity of blue cloth bleaching near the Happy Valley, and in the struggle which followed stabbed Wong Kin in the stomach and another man, who caught hold of him, in the leg with a pocket knife. Wong Kin died from the injuries he received on January 13th.

Several witnesses were called who witnessed the affray.

For the defence Dr. Ho Kai submitted that even if the prisoner did stab the deceased there was no malicious intention to kill.

By a majority of five to two the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter, and the prisoner was sent to gaol for seven years.

## THE TAIPINGSHAN ARBITRATION BOARD.

Since our last report of the meeting of the Taipingshan Arbitration Board, the Board has made the following awards:—

No. of claim.	Amount claimed.	Amount offered.	Amount awarded.
37	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,200
42	7,139	6,300	6,300
9	6,006	4,000	4,000
49	3,003	2,000	2,000
51	13,465	13,000	13,000
54	7,300	5,200	5,700
59	32,000	26,400	26,400
64	5,625	5,400	5,200

## HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

## HALF YEARLY MEETING.

The fifty-ninth ordinary half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held at the City Hall, on Saturday, at noon. Mr. C. J. Holliday occupied the chair, and there were also present the Hon. J. J. Keswick, Hon. A. McConachie, Messrs. J. S. Moses, R. M. Gray, H. H. Joseph, J. Kramer, St. C. Michaelsen, D. R. Sassoon, N. A. Siebs (Directors), T. Jackson (Chief Manager), A. Coxon, J. R. M. Smith, Hon. C. P. Chater, H. N. Mody, J. C. Peter, C. J. Gonsalves, J. R. Anton, G. Stewart, F. N. Firth, F. Henderson, K. A. Chinoy, J. A. Chinoy, H. C. Gotta, R. G. Shewan, M. F. Raper, R. T. Wright, W. S. Bamsey, Hon. E. R. Belilios, S. S. Benjamin, J. M. E. Macchado, A. G. Wood, G. B. Dodwell, G. C. Cox, J. M. Alves, W. H. Gaskell, E. F. Alford, J. J. Bell-Irving, G. Brady, J. R. Michael, P. Jordan, Captain Tillet, T. Brown, G. H. Potts, J. D. Humphreys, E. D. Sanders, A. Sharp, G. Murray Bain, Ho Tung, E. S. Kelly, Douglas Jones, C. Barlow, J. B. Coughtrie, S. G. Bird, C. Palmer, E. Georg, B. Layton, J. S. Ezekiel, A. Hancock, H. Humphreys, and D. Gozrow.

The CHAIRMAN, having read the Directors' half-yearly report, said—Gentlemen it affords the Directors great pleasure to come before you with such a report as the one you have just listened to. The half year under review was a very prosperous one for the Bank; profits were unusually good, and we had an almost total immunity from losses. Our shareholders will be glad to have the extra dividend of 5s. per share, making 25s. for the half year, instead of 20s. which they have recently been accustomed to. The addition of five lacs to the reserve fund is a most gratifying feature. (Applause). You will notice that the unproductive accounts, viz., Bank premises

and dead stock, have both been written down. The former \$100,000, the latter \$64,000 odd. The sterling deposits show a slight increase upon the amount given in the previous report, \$3,064,000 against \$2,942,000: they have for some time remained almost stationary, and are quite as much as we would wish them to be in the meantime. There has been a remarkable increase in the silver deposits, viz. \$73,651,000 on the 31st December last, against \$64,240,000 on the 31st June, 1894. The large amount of cash we held on the 31st December, viz., \$36,874,915, is evidence of the considerable accumulation of silver there is at present in the East and in the Far East. Our sterling investments aggregate £797,309, of which large amount £730,000 consist of 2½ per cent. Consols, a very satisfactory item considering the present high price of such securities. I may remark that we have not written up any of our sterling securities; as I mentioned at the last meeting they show a very large profit upon the price at which they stand in our books. (Applause). Bills payable and bills receivable stand at \$2,331,000 for the former, and \$57,539,000 for the latter, pretty much what they were last half year; both items are evidence of a very large current business going on. Up to the present the war between China and Japan has not had much effect upon trade, but should it continue for any length of time, and the sphere of its operations be enlarged, the effect would be most serious to all foreign trade; let us hope that peace may soon be an accomplished fact (Applause). During the half year the Bank negotiated a loan of Tls. 10,900,000 for the Chinese Government in London with satisfactory results, and quite recently a further loan for £3,000,000, both loans secured by the Chinese Maritime Customs. Dealing so largely as we do with silver, I suppose I am expected to say something about the white metal. Our policy has been and is to take things as they come, and be guided from day to day by the news we receive. We find it much easier to swim with the stream than against it. We continue the policy of keeping as far as possible upon an even keel with regard to our gold commitments. We are doing so well in our ordinary business that we are not tempted to take undue risks; we prefer to follow that absolutely safe course of action we have recently found so satisfactory. (Applause). What the future of silver is going to be I leave to wiser heads than mine to speculate upon. Your Directors have again, for the fourth time in the annals of the Bank's history, desired to specially recognise the zeal and general ability of the staff, and have voted our employés a bonus of 10 per cent. on their salaries for 1894, and I am confident that you will warmly endorse this action of ours (Applause). At the same time we wish here to record our sense of the services rendered by our managers, agents, and staff, and in recognition of which we have passed this vote. (Applause). I feel sure I am only echoing the unanimous feeling of every shareholder present when I express the very deep sorrow your Directors felt at the great loss sustained by the community generally, and the Bank particularly, in the lamentable death of their late colleague, Mr. Hoppius. I bring my remarks to a close by congratulating the shareholders upon the present most satisfactory condition of the Bank. Its career never looked more promising than it does at the present moment. (Loud applause). I shall be very glad to answer any questions which the shareholders may wish to address to me before moving the adoption of the report and accounts.

No questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN—There being no questions I beg to propose that the report and accounts be adopted and passed.

Mr. G. B. DODWELL said—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I have much pleasure in seconding the report and accounts submitted, and in doing so I wish to congratulate the management on the very satisfactory results they have been able to show. Not only, gentlemen, do these accounts give us an increase in our dividend of 5 shillings per share; but they allow of the substantial sum of \$500,000 being added to the reserve, thereby bringing that fund up to \$5,000,000, and this has been possible after writing off the large sum of \$160,000 odd from the Bank premises and from dead stock. (Applause). Bear in mind, gentlemen, that all this has been accomplished during very trying times, with silver fluctuating, and falling to we know not where, and whilst an unhappy war is raging

at a very short distance from us. To many of us these causes mean a diminution in our profits, and very much greater anxiety in obtaining these lessened earnings; but, gentlemen, in spite of these troubles our great institution seems to be able to thrive and increase its profits by leaps and bounds. (Applause). I look forward to the future of the Bank with the greatest confidence. Ordinary trade has undoubtedly been interfered with in a great measure by the present war between China and Japan, but all of us are hopeful that peace will speedily be declared, and I trust that the rulers of China may see the mistaken policy they have for so long adopted, and may reform their system of Government, and throw open the country to foreign trade and capital. If these reforms could be accomplished what an increase in all descriptions of business might be anticipated, not only in import and exports, but in railway and mining material and machinery, as well as shipping. I am sanguine that some such change is likely to take place before very long, and then, gentlemen, I hope that all of us may benefit by it, and last but not least the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. (Applause). I am very glad to notice that the good work which has been done for the shareholders by the staff of the Bank is to be recognized, and that a bonus of 10 per cent. on their salaries for 1894 has been included in these accounts. That this is most thoroughly deserved I am sure you will all agree. It is a long time since such a bonus has been given, but the withholding has undoubtedly been caused by the Directors' wish to build up their reserve fund, until this has assumed satisfactory proportions, and to study economy in every way; in fact, to be just before being generous. It is very assuring in more ways than one, therefore, that the Directors recommend this bonus to be paid, and I hope that all shareholders present will ungrudgingly support the action of the Board, and will tender to the staff and management their thanks for the successful results achieved, and this time let this not be a mere vote of thanks but an acknowledgment in practical shape of the shareholders' appreciation of the work done. (Applause). There are many points I could call your attention to as regards the figures contained in the accounts, but I will not detain you further than to say that I have nothing but satisfaction to express; the position is sound and good, and the policy of the Board is of a safe and sure kind, and one that I hope will be continued; if so, gentlemen, we may, with the ordinary good fortune of the Bank, expect to find in the course of the next twelve months our reserve fund—now standing at five millions—increased to six millions, and then we poor shareholders may look forward to a larger dividend than that we are to receive for the past half year. Such a prospect, gentlemen, it is well worth our while working for, and we must in every shape and form do our utmost to assist the Bank's development and prosperity. In conclusion, I have much pleasure in seconding that the report and accounts, as submitted, be passed. (Applause).

Carried unanimously.

Mr. J. J. BELL IRVING—I beg to move that the appointment of Mr. Siebs to the Directorate in room of the late Mr. Hoppius be confirmed, and that the Hon. J. J. Keswick and the Hon. A. McConachie be re-elected Directors.

Hon. P. C. CHATER—I second that.

Carried.

Hon. E. R. BELILIOS—I have to propose the re-election as auditors of Messrs. F. Henderson, A. G. Wood, and S. G. Bird.

Mr. GERSHOM STEWART—I have great pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

Mr. R. SHEWAN said—Gentlemen, we all received with great pleasure and gratification the very fine report which has just been read by the Chairman, but while it is very comforting to know that our interests are being so well cared for and our affairs so prosperous, we must not overlook any of those to whom such good results are due, but, as Mr. Dodwell said, show our practical appreciation of the work done. I do not refer to our Chief Manager Mr. Jackson, for we know that he is *facile princeps* among bankers, and it would be absurd of me to attempt to dilate upon his merits to a Hongkong audience or to any shareholders in this Bank, nor do I refer to the staff under him; for I am glad to learn that their efforts have been recognised and their work encouraged in a substantial manner and in a



way which has met with your unanimous approval, but I would say one word on behalf of that much-abused class, the Directors, who, in bad times, get all the kicks and few of the halpence, and in good times are apt to be forgotten. We are all very fond of saying that the labourer is worthy of his hire, but I am afraid we generally interpret that to mean making sure that he shall be worthy of his hire by keeping the hire itself as low as possible. In the case of our Directors, they have laboured well for us, but it is hard that as the fruits of their labour increased the reward, measured by that of men in similar positions at home, has steadily decreased. Now, gentlemen, we know that if we want a good thing we must pay well for it. This Bank has now become one of the largest in the world; it is certainly doing by far the largest business out here, and it must of necessity be represented by the best commercial men in the place, men who can bring their time and abilities, their energies and experience to the aid of the Bank, as well as their loyal support with the business they control to the support of the Bank. It is, however, no light matter for such men, with a large business of their own to control and many other interests to look after, to drop them all and come here whenever summoned, and at least once a week, to attend to our interests; and it would be a matter of shame to us if wanting and demanding to have such men we did not remunerate them adequately. I said adequately, but it is not a mere question of that; it is not a question of supply and demand of services rendered and paid. The Bank has taken front rank amongst the banks of the world and must now allow a little for style. There are Directors and Directors, and no doubt you can get cheaper ones, but just as we Britishers prefer to maintain our position among the nations by supporting a monarchy, even at great expense, rather than run the thing cheap as a Republic, so must this Bank keep up its pretensions and not be niggarly with its representatives. We have an increase of 25 per cent. on our dividend, and have put by a large amount for the proverbial rainy day; and though there was a time when, as Mr. Dodwell said, it was necessary to be just before we were generous, I think you will all agree with me that the time has now come when we can afford to be generous too. I therefore move that the future remuneration of the Directors be increased from \$20,000 to \$30,000 per annum; but before sitting down, and while on the subject of Directors, I would like to add my tribute to the memory and the worth of him who was sitting in that chair this time last year, but who has now gone from us for ever. He was a man we all admired and loved; he was a most straightforward, upright, and honourable man; the shadow of double-dealing never came near the name of Mr. Hoppius; his word was his bond, and no one who relied on it ever was disappointed. It is an old and hackneyed phrase, but the words are those of our greatest poet, and aptly apply to our former Chairman, "he was a man, take him for all in all, we may not look upon his like again." (Applause.)

Mr. J. D. HUMPHREYS—I have very great pleasure in seconding the motion made by Mr. Shewan, and in doing so and in making the few remarks I should like to make as one of the oldest residents in the colony and one of the oldest constituents of the Bank, I hope you will excuse me if I reiterate any of Mr. Shewan's remarks, and will not think I am guilty of plagiarism, for I have been able to hear him only imperfectly. This Bank was established in 1865. At that time, it will be within the memory of the oldest residents in the colony, exchange stood at 4/6—4 pence—and generally it was much over that. If I would state the average from memory in 1865 I should say exchange was probably 4d. or 31 higher than par value. That is one reason why the Directors might reasonably look for an increase in remuneration. I suppose that all have to remit a very considerable portion of their emoluments home. But there is another and very much greater and more interesting reason for this increase, and that is the enormous development of the Bank's business and its resources. In 1865 it was a small local bank. What is it now? The other evening I said to a gentleman who probably knows more about the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank than anybody else, that it was the Bank of Asia, and he replied "Yes, and a good deal more than that." I have been thinking of that ever since. If it were merely the Bank of Asia it would be a good

thing, when you come to consider the enormous trade interests of China and India included in it. But I have been thinking the matter over, and I quite agree with the remark passed to me. I have not the slightest doubt if it is not now, it will very soon be, not only the Bank of Asia but the exchange Bank of the whole world. (Applause.) From a staff of two or three it has spread out, first by agencies and then by its own branches, all over the world. These branches are rapidly growing in local influence wherever they are, and have gained the confidence of the people there; and there is not the slightest doubt, as I said before, that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, built as it is upon this little island—which is rock—will prove itself to be as stable as the rock upon which it is built. Well, gentlemen, these results have not been achieved except under the guidance of very able men of business. I do not suppose that in any part of the world you will find abler men of business at the head of affairs—we have got the pick of the basket,—and I hope we will always have men of this stamp on the Board of Directors of the Bank. I do not think in the whole world you could find more capable men of business than you will find here, and I am quite sure that, apart from their capacity, they are as enterprising and energetic as any business men in the whole world. If it had not been for the enterprise and energy on the part of the Directors and Management of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, it might have remained a small local bank till this day, as it was in 1865. (Applause.) I think, gentlemen, I have said quite sufficient to warrant what you are asked to do. It is a very small thing really to increase the remuneration of the Directors from \$20,000, at which it has stood since 1865, under the conditions I have just described, to \$30,000. With a few checks, the Bank's progress has been always upwards, and I am quite sure every shareholder will agree with me in expressing his heartfelt thanks, not only to the Directors, but also to the management and staff of the Bank for their conduct of its affairs in the past. You remember we had a bad time about the end of 1890. Our bad time commenced then. Well, such was the strength and vigour of our local bank that I believe if it had been purely a local crisis it would have recovered its position within a year; but unfortunately for us, as soon as we began to get our heads above water, down went the South American Republics, carrying with them the great house of Baring. If you remember, the whole colony was in a bad way then. Everybody was looking as blue as blue could look, and had good reason, too. Mr. Jackson, if you will remember, returned to the colony about the end of 1892, and at the meeting then I think I had the pleasure of seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts. I do not suppose you will remember what I said. But I said then that I was very pleased to see Mr. Jackson back again, that he always brought sunshine to the affairs of the colony and, gentlemen, I think you will agree that the sunshine has come. (Applause.) But, not from any weakness of ourselves, but from circumstances entirely beyond our control, almost immediately afterwards, down went all the Australian Banks. They were banks, many of them, in a perfectly solvent condition, and were able to pay their liabilities over and over again, and yet down they went. When we consider what happened in Australia with perfectly sound Banks, I think that you will all be grateful to the direction and management of this Bank for carrying you through an equally severe crisis with hardly a ripple on the waters so far as the outward eye can see. (Applause.) Nobody lost his head; there was no panic; there was no fear. The direction and management here was greatly assisted and supported by Mr. Jackson in London, who, I know, could not lose his head if he tried—if he had I should like to be the man to find it; but it is absolutely phenomenal that we in this little island, in this out-of-the-way part of the world, should tide over all these troubles, this wave of disaster which has rolled round the whole world, while nations and old-established firms and banks, perfectly solvent, went down. It is, therefore, for these reasons that I think you will cordially approve of the proposed increase in the remuneration of the Directors of the Bank and that you will feel with me, although you do not express it, that you owe a debt of gratitude not only to the

Board of Directors for carrying us safely through all these troubles, but to the Chief Manager and the staff of the Bank generally. (Applause.)

Mr. DOUGLAS JONES—What I came here I did not know that I was going to say a single word, but the remarks of the last gentleman have put something in my mind, and I have often heard it said, when a man goes away without expressing his mind, "Well, why did not somebody say so." I am determined that that shall not be said to me, because whatever I have in my mind I shall always express. I entirely agree with Mr. Dodwell in the statement that the Bank has suffered a great loss in the death of Mr. Hoppius. I also concur with him in the hope that next year the Bank's reserve fund will amount to \$6,000,000, but I go further than that. As regards the increased dividend, it would be to me personally a considerable advantage if the dividend was increased, but I am strongly of opinion that until the reserve of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shall amount to 1,000,000 sterling not more than £3 should be paid in any one year as dividend. We should be in a position not only of stability, but in a position absolutely beyond suspicion. Then as regards the remuneration of the Directors, I think, gentlemen, that, considering the very great drop in exchange and the small amount that \$20,000 now represents in comparison to what it did eight or ten years ago, \$0,000 is only a reasonable extra amount to allow. I suggest that that amount be paid to the Directors for the last year—that we vote them an extra \$10,000. I have seen this Bank at a time of very great prosperity—perhaps on paper in a much more prosperous condition than it is to-day. I have also seen it in rather low water. I think therefore that the somewhat laudatory speeches we have heard to-day, although called for, yet I think perhaps we might hesitate somewhat before we put ourselves on too high a pedestal, because it would be very awkward indeed if we should find ourselves in low water. I am very glad indeed that the bonus of 10 per cent. has been voted to the staff, and that we fully recognise the able work performed by the staff. I should not oppose for a moment the voting of \$10,000 to Directors, but I propose that it should be put in the form of—what shall we call it?—a bonus—an additional remuneration.

The CHAIRMAN—Do I understand that as an expression of opinion, Mr. Jones, or do you move an amendment?

Mr. DOUGLAS JONES—Merely an expression of opinion.

Mr. DODWELL—Before putting that resolution, I should like to know what is the remuneration of the London Committee.

The CHAIRMAN—200 a year.

Mr. DODWELL—200 sterling?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, £200.

Mr. DODWELL—That is to each member?

The CHAIRMAN—Yes; each member.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, on the part of the Board of Directors, I beg to tender you their best thanks for the handsome manner in which you have thought fit to show your recognition of their services, and I must also, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, express the gratification we cannot but feel at the very kindly and considerate way in which Mr. Shewan and Mr. Humphreys have spoken of such efforts as we have been able to put forth on your behalf. I have no hesitation in saying we have never failed to try to do our very best for the large and important institution confided to our care, and if things with the Bank at one time did not go quite as we all could have wished, I can assure you it was through no fault of ours, nor due to any shortcomings on our part. I must remind you there are matters which are beyond all human power to control, and all that we were able to do in such time of difficulty as we may have been called upon to face was to exert our every endeavour to bring through with as little actual injury as possible the grave interests entrusted to our charge. Considering all things, I am by no means sure that a Bank Director's lot is one altogether to be envied, especially in what is known as bad times—it is hard enough and harassing enough very often to have to attend only to one's own individual affairs—but it is terribly trying work when the serious responsibility as to other people's interests is added. I am sure, gentlemen,



you can realize and appreciate the apprehension that cannot but be felt when things are going anything but satisfactorily. You may rest certain, gentlemen, that your Directors, in their turn, have had to face in a more or less degree their full share of the vexations and disappointments incidental to all commercial undertakings, but more especially to banking; but I am only too thankful to be able to bear testimony to the fact—and I have been a member of this Board during the worst time the Bank has ever known, certainly during the last twenty years—that as yet, so far as we are concerned, we have never had to feel anything in the shape of actual anxiety. Concerning the future, you may rest satisfied, gentlemen, that there shall be no want of care or vigilance on our part, and we can only hope we shall never have to ask for any consideration at your hands; but you must please bear in mind it is the unknown and unexpected that has chiefly to be guarded against, and make every allowance for it. We will venture to accept this exceedingly thoughtful and graceful addition on your part to our honorarium in a double sense, partly as an expression of appreciation for services rendered, but more so as an indication of your confidence in us as to the future, and we can only sincerely trust you may never have cause for disappointment. There is no further business to submit to you, gentlemen. This concludes the business of to-day, and I have to thank you for your attendance. The dividend warrants will be issued on Monday.

### HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The half yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company was held at the offices of the Company on Monday afternoon. Mr. J. S. Van Buren presided, and there were also present Hon. J. J. Keswick, and Messrs. G. B. Dodwell, J. Kramer, N. A. Siebs, St. C. Michaelsen, J. H. Lewis (Directors), D. Gillies (Secretary), A. G. Wood, G. Murray Bain, A. Becker, C. S. Sharp, R. Mitchell, E. Jones Hughes, W. J. Gresson, and Alexander Ross.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands some time we will with your kind permission take them as read. The volume of work done at the Company's establishments during the last six months has been very satisfactory, although the net profit is somewhat less than in recent years, but this is accounted for in a great measure by the fact that our charges for work have remained about the same for the past ten years, whereas the cost of labour and material has been gradually advancing. The net amount available for appropriation is \$172,236.72, and your Directors have again the pleasure of recommending the payment of a dividend of 7 per cent. for the half year, a bonus of \$100 to contributing shareholders, \$35,000 to be written off the value of the Kowloon Docks, and \$5,000 from the steam launches, and the balance \$22,761.72 carried forward to the new account, and trust this distribution will meet with your approval. From the statement of accounts you will observe that it has again been found necessary to write off the large sum of \$7,201.99 from the Admiralty Loan Exchange Adjustment account. At our last meeting, when this account was closed at 2/14, the Board hoped that no further provision would be required in the future, but, unfortunately, silver has continued to fall and we have again had to make good the depreciation. It is of course useless to hazard a guess as to the future of silver, but it is to be hoped there may be a stoppage of the downward movement and an eventual rise in values, which will put this account on a more satisfactory footing. During the course of the past year forced draught has been fitted to the steam boilers at both the Kowloon and Cosmopolitan Docks and workshops, and has been found to work satisfactorily, admitting of the burning of the Charbonnages dust coal, there being no difficulty or trouble in maintaining a full pressure of steam with that fuel. Although the quantity of Charbonnages dust consumed is about the same as of Japanese coal, the lower cost of the former represents a considerable saving in the course of the year. We have also added several new machines and tools to both

our principal establishments, and these have been found to answer their purpose admirably, and have given thorough satisfaction, enabling the work to be done more quickly and at a smaller cost than has heretofore been possible. The Cosmopolitan Dock has always laboured under a disadvantage in not possessing an erecting shop, and the necessary modern appliances for the handling of heavy weights, much time having been lost in moving heavy pieces of machinery and getting them in and out of the machines. With a view to placing the workshops of this Dock in a more satisfactory condition, and in order to furnish the necessary facilities for having all work more promptly accomplished, your Directors have sanctioned the erection of a new fitting shop and a travelling crane capable of lifting 15 tons, the estimated cost of these improvements being about \$15,000. The returns from the Aberdeen Docks show a loss for the six months of \$3,257, but of this amount \$1,500 was the cost of the repairs to the buildings damaged by the typhoon of October last, the balance being the debit of the working account. The returns from this Dock are not what we should like to see them, but we hope they may be more satisfactory during the coming year. Our prospects for the half year just begun are very favourable, the net profits of the month of January being \$30,000, and both the Kowloon and Cosmopolitan Docks are at present fully employed. It is with the most profound sorrow—sorrow I am sure which is shared by all present—that I have to refer to the sad death of our late colleague Mr. H. Hoppins, who had for twenty-three years been a member of this Board. Mr. Hoppins at all times evinced the keenest interest in the welfare and prosperity of the Company, and his valuable counsel and practical advice in the administration of our affairs were always appreciated and will be greatly missed in the future. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer any questions.

No questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN—As there are no questions I shall be glad to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. WOOD—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

Mr. WOOD—I have great pleasure in proposing that the appointment of Messrs. Siebs, Michaelsen, and Lewis on the Directorate be confirmed.

Mr. SHARP—I second that.

Carried.

Mr. BECKER—I beg to propose the re-election of Mr. Kramer as Director.

Mr. MITCHELL—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

Mr. BAIN—I beg to propose that Messrs. Arnold and Bird be re-elected auditors.

Mr. WOOD—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business before the meeting, gentlemen. I have to thank you for your attendance. The dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow (Tuesday).

### THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LD.

The eighth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, was held on the 15th inst. at noon, at the Company's office, 4, Praya Central. The Hon. J. J. Keswick presided, and there were also present—Messrs. St. C. Michaelsen, A. G. Wood, J. Kramer, D. R. Sassoon, C. J. Holliday, J. S. Moses, G. B. Dodwell, H. H. Joseph, N. A. Siebs (Directors), W. Mathisen (Acting Secretary), T. I. Rose, and C. Sharp.

The ACTING SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I am glad that the accounts presented to shareholders at this meeting show that the business of the Company is steadily developing, and as it is being conducted on careful and sound principles I hope there may be an annual improvement in the revenues. In the year 1894 the gross revenue was \$44,463.6 more than in the previous year, and the profit on working, exclusive of interest and repairs, is \$91,396.16 against \$81,932.54 in the previous year, which is en-

couraging when the adverse circumstances are taken into consideration. The early promise of the year was excellent, but the plague interfered with our labour supply, increased the wages, and greatly diminished the quantity of goods on storage, besides affecting the number of steamers passing through the port. I cannot venture to say that the war had any marked effect one way or the other during the period embraced by the report and accounts, but I see an indication that it is affecting our storage revenues at the present time. On reference to the accounts you will notice that nothing has been written off property, as your Directors consider this unnecessary in view of the low figure to which it has been written down and the liberal expenditure in keeping up piers, buildings, launches, cargo-boats, etc., which is paid out of our current income. An offer has been made for the West Point vacant land, but as the price and the conditions accompanying the offer were not regarded as satisfactory your Directors refused to sell the property. As you are aware, gentlemen, there has been a new issue of debentures bearing interest at 5½ per cent. repayable in ten years, but the Company has the option of paying them off wholly or in part in five years. I need hardly say that these valuable securities have been readily taken up. It is with deep regret that the Board of Directors record the loss of the services of their esteemed colleague Mr. H. Hoppins, who since the formation of the Company until his lamented death zealously promoted the Company's interests. Mr. Siebs has been appointed a Director in Mr. Hoppins's stead, and Mr. Michaelsen has taken the place rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr. Jantzen. Both of these appointments require your confirmation. I shall be happy to answer any questions shareholders wish to put to me.

No questions were asked.

The CHAIRMAN—As there are no questions, gentlemen, I beg to move that the report and accounts as presented to this meeting be adopted and passed.

Mr. SHARP—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

Mr. ROSE—I beg to propose the confirmation of the appointment of Messrs. Michaelsen and Siebs as Directors.

Mr. SHARP—I beg to second that.

Carried.

Mr. SHARP—I beg to propose the re-election of Messrs. Wood and Kramer as Directors for the year.

Mr. ROSE—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

Carried.

Mr. SASSOON—I beg to propose the re-election of Messrs. Rose and Henderson as auditors.

Mr. WOOD—I second that resolution.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting. I regret to see that the attendance has been so small, and I hope that it may be taken as an indication that the absent shareholders are satisfied with the conduct of the Company's affairs committed to the charge of the present directors. The dividend warrants will be posted this afternoon (Friday).

The Franco-Siamese Commission, agreed upon between France and Siam in August, 1894, is now, the *Siam Free Press* says, being formed for the adjustment of boundary disputes along the valley of the Mekong. In the Battambang zone M. Emale Roland has been appointed by the French Foreign Minister as Commissioner and he will act in conjunction with Phra Saka Bidet.

The Shanghai *Mercury* says:—Many very ugly rumours are current about Shanghai as to the part being played by prominent Chinese merchants in the present war between this country and Japan, the names of several who are sending cargoes of rice and of other stores, and even munitions of war, to the enemy in Shing-king, Korea, and even Yancheng Bay being pretty freely mentioned in some places. But of course no good can come of repeating these names unless the facts themselves become more fully known. If the true facts about the loading of certain junks ostensibly with rice for southern ports, but in reality with rice and arms for Korea, became known to the Chinese officials some of the most highly held heads might feel tender around their fur-lined throats.



# SHANGHAI LAND INVESTMENT CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report of the directors, for presentation at the sixth annual meeting of shareholders to be held at Shanghai on Monday, the 25th February:—

In presenting their sixth annual report and statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1894, the directors are pleased to be able to point to the continued increase in the volume of the business under their control.

The profit on working account for the year amounts to the sum of Taels 43,561.31 against Taels 39,343.04 last year.

Profit and loss account (including profit on land sold), after deducting Taels 5,245.13 transferred to reserve fund and amount of interim dividend paid in July, shows a credit balance, on 31st December, 1894, of Taels 37,010.80, and this sum the directors propose to divide as follows:—

To pay a final dividend of 4 per cent. on the paid-up capital (making 7 per cent. for the year) ..... 27,642.00

To transfer to reserve fund (interest for 1894 on undeveloped portion of No. 2 Estate) ..... 3,716.07

To carry forward to new account ..... 5,652.13

These call for no comment, the rentals amounting, however, to somewhat more than those of last year.

NO. 2 ESTATE.

In April last the directors received an offer of Taels 3,300 per mow for cadastral lots numbers 428 and 429 (measuring a little over 5 mow) from the Municipal Council to be used for the purpose of building a Public School, and as such a school on the property appeared to be advantageous to the interests of the Company the offer was accepted. The terrace of nine foreign houses alluded to in last year's report having been satisfactorily let, a terrace of eight more similar houses was begun in December last.

It is also in contemplation to build a terrace of seven or eight larger and better houses in North Szechuen Road, as there seems to be a want for such houses in this locality.

119 Chinese houses have also been built during the year and have all found tenants at paying rentals. The directors are of opinion that there is still room for an extension of this class of building, and this matter is now having their attention.

NO. 5 ESTATE.

In December the Company purchased, for the sum of Tls 68,000, a property in Hanbury Road, which the directors fully expect will turn out a remunerative investment. This estate is only partially built upon and its further development is now having consideration.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. McLeod retires by rotation, but offers himself for re-election.

AUDITORS.

Mr. Francis retires, but again offers his services for the current year.

H. R. HEARN, Chairman.

WORKING ACCOUNT, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

Dr.	Tls.
To brokerage on debentures	91.00
To advertising	403.41
To agency management	7,500.00
To interest	29,682.14
To legal expenses	350.00
To directors' fees	2,000.00
To auditors' fees	200.00
To balance transferred to profit and loss account	43,561.33
	<b>Tls. 83,787.88</b>

Cr.	Tls.
By gross rentals	93,768.48
Less fire insurance, taxes, water, repairs, &c.	10,114.69
	<b>83,653.79</b>
By transfer fees	50.14
By commission	83.95
	<b>Tls. 83,787.88</b>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To final dividend 1893 at 3½ per cent.	21,000.00
To interest on No. 2 estate 1893 transferred to reserve fund	5,245.13
To interim dividend 1894 at 3 per cent.	18,556.80
To balance	37,010.80
	<b>Tls. 81,812.73</b>

Cr.	Tls.
By balance	26,894.68
By interest on No. 2 estate for 1894 transferred	3,716.67
By profit on lot K No. 2 estate sold Municipal Council	7,640.05
By balance working account, 1894	43,561.33
	<b>Tls. 81,812.73</b>

RESERVE FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
To balance	33,508.30
	<b>Tls. 33,508.30</b>

1st Jan., 1894.

By balance

31st Dec.

By interest on No. 2 estate for 1894 transferred

By profit on lot K No. 2 estate sold Municipal Council

By balance working account, 1894

31st Dec., 1894.

To balance

1st Jan., 1894.

By balance

28th Feb.

By interest on No. 2 estate for 1893

Cr.

Tls.

28,263.17

5,245.13

Tls. 33,508.30

## BALANCE SHEET.

### ASSETS.

	Tls.
Estate No. 1	518,552.98
Estate No. 2	467,012.65
Estate No. 3	131,946.66
Estate No. 4	128,930.06
Estate No. 5	68,000.00
Cash due by Agents	3,297.56
Sundry debtors	10,441.76
Sundry mortgages	92,362.26
	<b>Tls. 1,420,543.93</b>

### LIABILITIES.

	Tls.
Capital paid-up	714,600.00
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, current account	11,674.51
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, advance account	100,000.00
Debentures bearing 6 per cent. interest	250,000.00
Debentures bearing 5½ per cent. interest	248,900.00
Profit and loss account	37,010.80
Unclaimed dividends	395.25
Sundry creditors	955.07
North-China Insurance Co. (mortgage)	23,500.00
Reserve fund	33,508.30
	<b>Tls. 1,420,543.93</b>

## CRICKET.

### THE CLUB v. THE GARRISON.

It does not very often happen on the Hongkong Cricket Ground that the captain of a side, having won the toss, has to think twice as to whether he shall take the innings or put his opponents in; but in the match between the Club and the Garrison, which was played on Friday and Saturday last, the necessity arose in a somewhat acute form. That Sercombe Smith weighed the pros and cons very carefully we may fairly presume; but without trying to be too clever after the event, the partisans of the Club may well regret that he did not find the cons weighty enough to induce him to choose for once the latter alternative. Having, however, elected to bat he sent in E. W. Maitland and Garde to face the bowling of Lysley and Private Lee. The start was fairly propitious, as the score had been carried to 46 before Garde was caught at the wicket off Private Lee. The retiring batsman had made 25 by careful cricket under somewhat difficult circumstances, the wicket being rather tricky and the light villainous. Firth gave very little trouble, being quickly caught by Reade off one of Vallings' deliveries; unfortunately not before he had utilized one of the very few minutes he was in by running Maitland out. Darby and Elliott were the only other batsmen to offer the slightest resistance to the bowling, the score being 82 for 4 wickets when Darby was out and 99 when Lammert—the tenth wicket—succumbed to one of Alexander's expresses. The hopeless collapse of the batting side commenced from the time when Reade sorted out the Rifles' fast bowler to take the place of Vallings. Bowling with a very high delivery and at a considerable pace, he seemed to be quite unplayable in the uncertain light, and eventually secured 6 wickets for 15 runs. With the advent of Alexander, the Club will have to take into consideration the advisability of putting a flounce on to the top—or are flounces always put on at the bottom?—of the bowler's screens, which are already—like the circulation of the *Daily Telegraph*—the largest in the world.

The Garrison opened their innings with Knox and Sergt. Burton to the bowling of Elliott and Lammert, but the partnership did not last long, as Knox was bowled almost immediately without having contributed to the score. Saunderson was the new comer; and he playing rather slow but very sound cricket whilst Sergt. Burton hit out, the pair of them carried the score to 60 before the latter was bowled by a trimmer from Darby. The next two batsmen did not trouble the scorers very much, and the score was 99 for 5 wickets when Saunderson was bowled by Elliott for a very patiently played 17, which was invaluable to his side. From this period the chief feature of interest was the batting of Thresher, who has been unaccountably unsuccessful in previous matches, but who played upon this occasion an excellent innings of 48. The side was eventually disposed of for 152. Darby and

Lammert were the most successful of the Club bowlers, the former especially bowling with great judgment in the earlier part of the innings.

As it was impossible to make up for the ground lost the second innings of the Club was shorn of a good deal of interest; and it is sufficient to state that they had made 175 for 9 wickets when the bell rang, and the Garrison retired from the field the victors by a majority of 93 runs on the first innings. The batting of Smith and Darby was a redeeming feature in an otherwise rather indifferent display of cricket on the part of the home side, the former contributing 48 by good clean hitting and the latter 33 before one of Vallings's sat up and looked at him. The fielding on the part of the Garrison was very smart and close throughout, though one or two chances were dropped, whilst on the side of the Club we regretted to notice a good deal too much of the "After you, Sir," style of getting after the ball.

### HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

FIRST INNINGS.		SECOND INNINGS.	
E. W. Maitland, run out	24	c Lysley, b Burton	33
R. B. Garde, R.N., c Paley, b Lee	25	c Reade, b Vallings	13
C. M. Firth, c Reade, b Vallings	3	b Lysley	21
S. L. Darby, b Alexander	19	c and b Vallings	33
H. M. C. Elliott, R.N., b Alexander	12	b Burton	6
E. C. Ellis, b Lysley	2	c Burton, b Saunderson	1
E. Mast, b Alexander	0	c Saunderson, b Burton	2
T. S. Smith, b Alexander	10	b Lysley	48
T. Shelford, R.N., b Alexander	0	c Burton, b Knox	4
R. F. Lammert, b Alexander	0	not out	0
E. Ezekiel, not out	0	not out	5
Extras	5	Extras	9
	<b>99</b>		<b>175</b>

### BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs.	Mds.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wkts.
First Innings.					
Private Lee	23	9	41	—	1
Lt. Lysley, R.B.	13	3	26	—	1
Rev. Vallings	15	7	12	—	1
Alexander	6	1	15	—	6
Second Innings.					
Alexander	12	4	31	—	—
Vallings	19	6	42	—	2
Lysley	11	1	27	—	2
Saunderson	7	—	19	—	1
Burton	9	1	24	—	3
Thresher	3	1	12	—	—
Knox	4	1	11	—	1

### GARRISON.

Sergt. Burton, R.B., b Darby	44
C. W. Knox, R.B., b Lammert	10
L. T. B. Saunderson, R.B., b Elliott	17
G. D. Campbell, b Darby	9
Surg-Major Reade, b Darby	0
G. L. Lysley, c Elliott, b Darby	18
J. H. Thresher, not out	48
Rev. G. Vallings, b Elliott	30
R. Alexander, b Lammert	8
J. Paley, b Maitland	1
Pte. Lee, did not bat	—
Extras	27
	<b>192</b>

### BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Overs.	Mds.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wkts.
Elliott	12	5	21	—	2
Lammert	9	3	12	—	2
Firth	15	3	45	1	—
Shelford	5	—	13	—	—
Darby	22	9	39	—	4
Mast	6	3	8	—	—
S. Smith	2	—	2	—	—
Ellis	2	—	5	—	—
Maitland	7	2	20	—	1

## HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

### CAPTAIN'S CUP COMPETITION.

This Cup was presented to the Club by Commodore Boyes, R.N., to be played for under the following conditions.—The Cup to be played for monthly during the year, at the end of which period the twelve winners to play for ultimate possession. The last stage of the competition was reached last week, when it was found that the twelve competitors had dwindled down to eight, from the fact of two players having won the Cup twice and two players being now absent from the colony. The result of the draw and first round was as follows:—

1	Mr. W. M. Thompson, R.E. (receives 4 strokes), beat
2	Mr. H. L. Dalrymple (scratch)
3	Mr. J. G. T. Buckle (receives 8 strokes), beat
4	Mr. C. H. Grace (receives 6 strokes)
5	Captain W. H. E. Murray, A.D.C. (scratch), walk over
6	Mr. J. Hastings (receives 7 strokes) scratched
7	Mr. J. Thurburn (receives 6 strokes), beat
8	Mr. A. J. Leach (receives 4 strokes)

In the second round a close match was seen between Mr. Buckle and Mr. Thompson. After playing 18 holes the match was still all square and an extra hole had to be played according to the conditions of the handicap. This hole was also halved, but Mr. Buckle receiving a stroke



won the hole and the match. Result of second round:—

Mr. J. G. T. Buckle (receives 8 strokes)  
beat  
Mr. W. M. Thompson, R.E. (rec. 4 strokes)  
Mr. J. Thurburn (receives 6 strokes)  
beat  
Captain W. H. E. Murray (scratch)

#### FINAL ROUND.

The players left in to do battle for the Cup now only consisted of two, Mr. J. Thurburn and Mr. J. G. T. Buckle, who on Wednesday fought out the final tie in the presence of numerous interested spectators, including several ladies, who took great interest in the game. Starting off at three o'clock precisely Mr. Thurburn soon showed he was in good form, for after winning the first hole in six he followed up with four consecutive fives. Mr. Buckle, by no means deterred, won the second and fifth in 4 each, and receiving a stroke at the long hole, which he negotiated in 5, brought the match all square. Driving to the seventh Mr. Buckle drove a beautiful long low ball while Mr. Thurburn was short with his. Playing the odd the latter was still short and Mr. Buckle preferred not to risk all by going for the hazard and played a short shot and was over in 3. Mr. Thurburn now put in one of his deadly approaches and was stone dead in 4, leaving Mr. Buckle two for the half. He failed to get down and lost the hole. The result of the first round was that Mr. Thurburn was one up, although he was somewhat fortunate to win the last hole, his ball pitching short of the burn and rolling up over the bridge. The scores for the first round were as follows:—

Mr. Thurburn 8 5 5 5 5 6 5 6 4=47  
Mr. Buckle 7 4 6 6 4 5 6 5 5=48

Starting off for the second round Mr. Buckle at once brought the match all square at the first hole, but was 2 down at the third, where Mr. Thurburn played a beautiful second shot with his brasseys and took the hole in 4. Following this up with two fives he found himself at the sixth hole "dormy 3," and winning the seventh won the match and the Cup by 4 up and 2 to play. Scores:—

Mr. Thurburn 8 5 4 5 5 6 8=41 for 7 holes  
Mr. Buckle 6 6 6 6 5 6 10=45

The winner played a strong steady game and thoroughly deserved his success, while a word of praise is certainly due to the loser for the plucky manner in which he stuck to his uphill task.

An adjournment was then made to the Club House, where the Cup was presented to the winner by Miss Boyes, daughter of the Captain of the Club. The trophy, a very handsome one, is in the form of a wine cup resting on three golf clubs and is thoroughly symbolical of the game at which it was won. Mr. Thurburn in reply said how much the members of the Golf Club were indebted to Commodore Boyes for his gift and for the additional interest it had imparted to the game. The Cup was then christened and three cheers given for the winner and for the Captain of the Club.

#### HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

##### MAXIM GUN CORPS.

On Saturday afternoon thirteen members turned out to shoot in the Company's eighth monthly carbine competition for its championship challenge cup and handicap sweepstakes over the 200, 400, and 500 yards' distances on the Police Range, Kowloon, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by the Captain Superintendent of Police. The afternoon, though fine, was not a favourable one for shooting, a strong and gusty wind, together with a dull and changeable light, proving very troublesome to many of the marksmen, who found it impossible to do so well as might have been expected of them under more favourable conditions. Gunner Smyth won the cup for the fifth time with a creditable total of 81, the sweeps falling to Gunners Thompson and McArthur. The following were the best scores:—

	200 yards.	400 yards.	500 yards.	Total.
Gunner Smyth .....	29	28	24	81
Gunner Shepherd .....	26	17	28	71
Gunner G. P. Lammert .....	26	21	23	70
Gunner Thompson .....	22	23	24	69
Sergeant May .....	20	24	24	68
Captain Murray .....	24	22	16	62

#### HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

There was a good attendance last Saturday to compete for the Short Range Cup. The weather was dull and windy, but the shooting was exceptionally good. The Cup was won by Sapper Hare and the Spoons by Mr. Roseveare, Sapper Thompson, P.O. Goodger, Mr. Staveley, and Major Wrottesley. The following were the best scores:—

	200 yds.	300 yds.	H'cap points.	total.
Sapper Hare, R.E. ....	31	29	10	70
Mr. Roseveare, R.N. ....	31	30	8	69
Sapper Thompson, R.E. ....	30	31	7	68
P.O. Goodger, R.N. ....	30	27	9	66
Mr. Staveley, R.B. ....	29	29	6	64
Major Wrottesley, R.E. ....	30	29	4	63
Sapper Lawson, R.E. ....	29	28	6	63
Mr. W. Stewart .....	29	28	6	63
Mr. Rutter .....	28	23	12	63
Mr. Duncan .....	32	30	6	62
Mr. McDonald .....	31	22	8	61
P.O. Bishop, R.N. ....	22	25	3	60

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

##### THE BANK MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—When the Chairman said that it is easier to swim with the stream did he refer to the matter of exchange only or to the general control which the Directors are supposed to exercise over the affairs of the Bank? If the former it is generally understood that it is left, and rightly so, entirely to the chief manager; if the latter I have no doubt it is perfectly true—a policy of drift, and their accounts regularly credited with their fees. If things go well they take the credit, if badly it is from causes beyond their control. Mr. Shewan is reported to have said that in bad times the directors get all the kicks and few of the halfpence. I think it would have been more correct to have said that in bad times they take from the shareholders' diminished profits the full number of halfpence and in good times they increase them to an equal number of pennies. It will be in the recollection of old residents that in or about 1875, when the Bank paid no dividend, and when most of the Reserve Fund was lost, the Directors draw their fees all the same. The Chairman in his concluding speech said, "If at one time the affairs of the Bank did not go as well as we might have wished it was, I can assure you, no fault of ours." If that is correct I do not see why they should claim the credit when things go well. He is also reported to have said that the directors find it terribly trying to add to the troubles of their own businesses the serious responsibility of others' affairs! At \$3,000 per annum for half an hour's work per week!

Not bearing the empty name of a practically defunct firm I have no chance of being appointed a director; not being a director of any company I have no occasion to magnify the office, and not requiring accommodation I have nothing to gain by kow-towing to the directors or the management; but I am much mistaken if my views are not those of the great body of shareholders. Anyhow I will endeavour to find out, and although not given to speaking at company meetings, I think of proposing next half year that the number of directors be reduced to five and that the remuneration be one thousand dollars per annum each. I feel quite confident that the business of the Bank would go on.

EQUALLY WELL.

Hongkong, 16th February, 1895.

#### THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS AND SHIPBUILDERS OF HONGKONG.

On Thursday night Mr. William Bailey, member of the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong, read a paper at the Institute on "The running of marine engines and boilers." The object of Mr. Bailey's paper was to combine some practical information with an outline of the principles which control the relation of heat to work in the marine engine and boiler. "The fact that so very small a proportion of the heat in the coal burned is employed in driving our steamers seems to say," said Mr. Bailey in conclusion, "that in this respect the weak side of nature has yet to be reached. The engineer who studies this subject must surely be

modest, for the more he learns the wider appears the field opened by nature for his research. Working diligently in that field he may appreciate the feeling which animated that great philosopher and mathematician, Sir Isaac Newton, when, after a lifetime of work crowned with the most brilliant success, he compared himself to a little child gathering shells upon the great ocean of knowledge." Mr. R. Cooke presided. The discussion on the paper was adjourned until Monday night.

On Monday night the members of the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong met at the Institution and discussed the paper on the running of marine engines and boilers read last week by Mr. Bailey, in connection with the Gillies gold medal competition. The discussion was purely technical.

#### HONGKONG.

The half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was held on Saturday. Several speeches were made by shareholders in which satisfaction was expressed with the position of the Bank and a resolution was carried raising the amount of the directors' remuneration from \$20,000 to \$30,000. Several meetings of public companies have been held during the week. Another murder has been committed in the Hongkong Regiment, a havildar named Uramz Khan having been shot late at night in an unfrequented road. A private of the Regiment stands charged with the murder. A cricket match was played on the 15th and 16th inst. between the Club and the Garrison and resulted in a victory for the latter on the first innings. Two more performances of the Pantomime have been given during the week, one on Saturday and another on Monday. A telegram has been received by the Naval Authorities from the British Consul at Takow that protection is urgently required in Formosa and H.M.S. *Mercury* has been despatched; the character of the trouble has not transpired.

There were 1,884 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 176 were Europeans. M. De Champeaux, the Agent of the Messageries Maritimes at this port, goes home on leave to-day by the *Melbourne*.

The Douglas steamer *Formosa* was decorated on the 13th inst. day in celebration of the completion of her two hundredth trip.

A glass factory is being erected by Messrs. Sander & Co. at Kowloon. Japanese experts are to be employed to superintend the work.

The British steamer *Rosary*, which arrived here on the 13th inst. from Manchester, is the first vessel for China that has made the journey through the new ship canal.

There was a thick fog over the harbour on Friday morning and the ferry launches had some difficulty in making the trip across, several of them getting considerably out of their course.

The Manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China informs us he received a telegram on Thursday morning from London stating that Mr. T. H. Whitehead's lecture, on the depreciation of silver as it affects British trade, delivered at a meeting of the members of the Royal Colonial Institute on the 12th instant, was a great success.

Mr. Sangster's organ recital on Thursday afternoon proved a great treat to the large congregation that assembled to hear it. The programme was pleasantly varied by two vocal solos. Dr. Meadows, in "It is enough," from Mendelssohn's "Elijah," did justice to this very fine solo, for which his powerful and well modulated voice was well adapted. Mr. W. M. Wood sang the solo "Jerusalem" with great taste, but his rich tenor voice would have been heard to more advantage had his enunciation been a little clearer.

On Monday afternoon Mr. Lammert offered for sale by auction the house No. 17, Wyndham Street. The area of the property is 1,296 square feet and the annual Crown rent \$12. The bidding commenced at \$3,000 and after a spirited competition the lot was knocked down for \$5,550 to Mr. Li Po. On Friday last Mr. Lammert also sold another property, No. 67, Hollywood Road, which after close bidding was knocked down to Mr. Wo Leung Chow for \$5,000. The area in this case is 1,155 square feet and the annual Crown rent \$8.79. Both sales took place by order of the mortgagees and Messrs. Johnson, Stokes, and Master were the solicitors.



There was a large attendance at the performance of "Robinson Crusoe" on Saturday evening. The vocal efforts of the leading performers were heartily applauded and in most cases encores were demanded and obtained. The topical allusions by Mr. Brady to local affairs were well received, especially the one having reference to Mr. T. H. Whitehead's recent lecture on the silver question delivered at the Colonial Institute.

The Captain Superintendent of Police having reported that Head District Watchman Lam On and District Watchman Pun Hing rendered valuable services in the Winglok Street robbery and murder case the Government has given them each a reward of \$50. The presentation took place on Friday in the Registrar-General's office in the presence of the Registrar-General, the Captain Superintendent of Police, and the District Watchmen's Committee.

Mr. H. H. Joseph, who has held the appointment of Superintendent of the P. & O. Company at this port for the last three years, left on Sunday by the steamer *Guthrie* for Australia, and after making an inspection of the agencies in the colonies will proceed to London to take up the duties of Secretary to the Company. Before leaving Mr. Joseph was presented with a handsome silver table ornament by the staff that has worked under him, as a token of their esteem.

A large number of gentlemen assembled on the open space in front of the City Hall on Monday afternoon to witness the sale by auction of nine ponies belonging to the late Mr. R. Fraser Smith. Mr. Armstrong was the auctioneer. The bidding throughout was very tame, and there was not a single offer for the first three ponies which were on the list. Then Craig Rylie was put up, and was sold to Mr. Kennedy for \$125. The same purchaser bought Catterthun for \$85, Donald Dhu for \$75, and Duart for \$125. The other ponies were not sold.

The house known as "Macomer," on the Peak Road, above the service reservoir, was offered for sale by public auction on Monday by Mr. J. M. Armstrong, under instructions from the mortgagees. The area of the lot is 32,335 square feet. The house was built a few years ago by Mr. G. S. Coxon for his own occupation, and on his departure from the colony it was taken on lease by Sir G. T. M. O'Brien, Colonial Secretary, and is at present occupied by Mr. J. Ross Anton at a rental, including furniture and taxes, of \$180 a month. The lease expires on the 11th April next. "Macomer" is one of the most pleasantly situated and desirable residences in the colony, and has garden, yard, and tennis lawn, but there was not much competition for it at yesterday's sale. The Hon. E. R. Belilios commenced the bidding at \$15,000 and it advanced by bids of \$1,000 to \$20,000, at which the property was bought in. Mr. V. H. Deacon was the solicitor for the mortgagees.

The *Times of Ceylon* of the 1st inst. says.—"Mr. Matthews, of the firm of Coode Son & Matthews, who returned a few days ago to Ceylon from China, went there, it will be recollected, to inspect the Gap Rock Lighthouse, about thirty miles this side of Hongkong. When Mr. Matthews was here before, Sir Arthur Havelock was telegraphed to by the Governor of Hongkong asking that the latter would allow Mr. Matthews to inspect the lighthouse, and Mr. Matthews found it convenient to do so, and will report on the lighthouse, which, we understand, was not constructed by his firm. On the way to Hongkong he had a look at Penang, for which place his firm suggested harbour works some years ago, but these harbour works have not been taken in hand, and his visit there was purely informal. Since his return to Ceylon he has been busy on the proposed Kelani Flood outlet scheme, and he is setting the proper machinery in motion to get data on the subject. It is thought that the necessary information will take fully a year to acquire, but of course Mr. Matthews will not remain to get it. He is booked to leave Colombo on the 9th instant for Mauritius and the Cape." Mr. Matthews reported unfavourably on the site of Gap Rock, but whether the light is to be removed has not, we believe, been decided yet. With regard to the sea wall in front of the Praya reclamation Mr. Matthews reported that the work was better and more substantial than was really necessary.

At a meeting of the Odd Volumes on Friday afternoon Dr. Eitel read a learned and interesting paper on the philosophy of the sub-conscious, in which he treated of the various processes of the mind that go on without our being conscious of them at the time or exercising volition in regard to them. The chair was occupied by Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. After Dr. Eitel had read his paper Mr. S. B. J. Skertchly addressed the meeting and gave a review of the results of scientific research on the subject, as they presented themselves to his own mind, his views being in some respects different from those of Dr. Eitel. In the course of his remarks he referred to experiments made upon plants, especially climbers, which having been given a stimulus to do a certain thing would continue to do it. The Chairman said that while listening to Mr. Skertchly he was reminded of the results of the contact of the horns of a bull with a man's person; a man being chased by a bull in a field, in order to avoid these results, would do like Mr. Skertchly's plants, climb a tree; but there were exceptions, and a man would sometimes turn and face the bull; Mr. Skertchly's theory, materialistic as it seemed, did not, Mr. Francis said, account for the exceptions. The Rev. R. F. Cobbold moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Eitel and in doing so complimented him on the quality of the language in which his thoughts were clothed as well as on the substance of the paper; he recommended the members of the Society to follow Dr. Eitel's advice and let the subject rest in their sub-consciousness for a time, and said he was sure that when they returned to it again they would understand it much better. Dr. Eitel in acknowledging the vote of thanks caused some amusement by recommending every member of the Society to take as his escutcheon the picture of a cow ruminating—and ruminating in silence.

#### COMMERCIAL.

##### TEA.

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Canton and Macao .....	7,597,185	8,178,734
Amoy .....	772,692	720,993
Foochow .....	13,777,348	21,329,281
Shanghai and Hankow .....	21,591,498	25,514,030
	43,738,723	55,743,038

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai .....	22,555,223	21,619,462

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1894-95. lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Canton.....	3,522,240	1,349,192
Amoy .....	18,651,820	19,652,332
Foochow .....	8,140,519	5,883,106
Shanghai.....	25,783,527	24,176,826
	56,098,106	51,061,456

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1894-95 lbs.	1893-94 lbs.
Yokohama.....	28,547,371	28,623,687
Kobe .....	16,682,616	16,880,822
	45,229,987	45,504,509

##### SILK.

SHANGHAI, 14th February.—(From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's circular.)—London telegrams dated 12th current report the market "quiet but steady." Quotations unchanged. Raw Silk.—Business during the week has been very quiet. Holders are ready to meet the market to some extent, but not enough to bring about new business. Tatlees.—Settlements for the mail are about 250 bales. Prices show a reduction of 5 to 7½ Taels on last week's quotations, but buyers do not find this low enough to enter the market. A few bales of Hanchows have changed hands. Tatlees.—Very small business at weak prices. Yellow Silks.—Continue in fair demand at about previous quotations. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from 7th to the 13th instant are 91 bales of White, 66 bales of Yellow, and 54 bales of Wild Silk.

Re-reels and Filatures.—No business reported this week. Prices are firm and stocks are much reduced. Wild Silks.—A parcel of Water and Tussah Raw was taken at Tls. 122½. Waste Silks.—No transactions are reported. Pongees.—1,500 pieces Shantung Pongees 20/21 oz. (Congee cargo) were settled at Tls. 1.75.

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1894-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton .....	12,577	14,180
Shanghai .....	44,436	44,036
Yokohama .....	18,544	16,372
Total to date .....	75,557	74,588

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1894-95 bales.	1893-94 bales.
Canton.....	6,528	2,584
Shanghai.....	7,068	2,132
Yokohama .....	21,796	11,597
	35,382	16,263

##### CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 19th February.—There has been a large amount of speculation on this market and prices show a large advance. Quotations for Formosa are \$23.50 to \$49.00. Sales 100 piculs.

##### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 19th February.—Business is still dull and prices have declined. Following are the quotations:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.60 to 7.65 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	7.00 to 7.02 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.87 to 4.90 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.67 to 4.70 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.50 to 7.54 "
do. " 2, White...	6.86 to 6.90 "
do. " 1, Brown...	4.59 to 4.62 "
Swatow, No. 2, Brown...	4.38 to 4.41 "
Foochow Sugar Candy .....	10.90 to 11.00 "
Shekloong " .....	9.58 to 9.62 "

##### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The German steamer *Lawang*, Hongkong to Havre, 31st January, took:—2 cases Feathers, 60 boxes Staraniseed, 3 bales Human Hair, 515 bales Bamboo, and 15 bales Matting; for Havre option Hamburg:—22 cases Hair; for Havre option London:—25 cases Aniseed Oil; for Hamburg:—10 cases Essential Oil, 50 cases Bristles, 100 cases Staraniseed, 3 cases Copperware, 4 packages Rattanware, 5 cases Blackwoodware, 522 bales Feathers, 30 packages Merchandise, and 6 packages Sundries.

The P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, Hongkong to London, 31st January, took:—8 cases Cigars, 27 Bristles, 110 boxes Tea (2,310 lbs. Congou), and 4 packages Sundries; for France:—95 bales Raw Silk.

The steamer *Telamon*, Hongkong to London, 6th February, took:—100 cases Palm Leaf Fans, 8 bales Hemp, 52 cases Cigars, 436 cases M. O. P. Shells, 356 packages Tea, and 6 cases Private Effects; for Liverpool:—3 cases Curio; for Glasgow:—40 packages Merchandise.

The German steamer *Darmstadt*, Hongkong to Hamburg, 8th February, took:—2 cases Cigars, 73 cases Fire Crackers, 2 cases Silverware (\$1,430), 200 cases Gallnuts, 55 cases Bristles, 62 cases Merchandise, and 8 cases Sundries; for Amsterdam:—10 cases Chinaware, 4 cases Palm Leaf Fans, 2 cases Earthenware, 14 cases Tea Sticks, 20 cases Preserves, and 50 cases Ginger; for Rotterdam:—50 bales Leaf Tobacco, and 300 cases Preserves; for New York:—55 cases Essential Oil, and 7 cases Curios; for Bremen:—2 cases Cigars, 2 cases Curios, 1 package Tea, 1 case Chinaware, 1 case Sundries, and 4 cases Bristles; for Genoa:—10 cases Essential Oil, 35 bales Waste Silk, and 5 bales Merchandise; for Lisbon:—1 bag Coffee, 2 cases Chinaware, and 2 cases Sandalwoodware; for Colombo:—1 roll Matting; for Antwerp:—215 bales Leaf Tobacco, 100 bales Rattanware, 91 rolls Matting, 24 cases Preserves, 145 bales Bamboo Scraps, 31 cases Chinaware, and 45 cases Merchandise.

The steamer *Orestes*, Hongkong to London, 14th February, took:—600 cases Preserves and 6 cases Cigars; for Liverpool:—4 packages Curios.

The P. & O. steamer *Sutlej*, Hongkong to London, 14th February, took:—35 cases Canes, 101 bales Waste Silk, and 2 cases Silks; for France:—140 bales Raw Silk.



## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 19th February.—Bengal.—The market has ruled dull throughout and a further decline has taken place in prices. Patna is quoted at the close at \$860 for New and \$835 for Old; and Benares at \$835 for New and \$820 for Old.

Malwa.—A very small quantity has changed hands in the interval, there having been hardly any demand. Current figures are as under:—  
New ..... \$710 with allowance of 1 to 3 cts.  
Old (2 to 4 yrs.) \$730 " 1 to 2 "  
" (5 to 7 yrs.) \$740 " 1 to 2 "

Persian.—This drug also has been neglected during the past week. Oily descriptions continue unchanged in value, but Paper-wrapped have slightly given way, latest quotations being \$733 to \$795 for the former and \$780 to \$800 for the latter according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

Old Patna .....	2,100 chests.
New Patna .....	285 "
Old Benares .....	1,390 "
New Benares .....	170 "
Malwa .....	1,010 "
Persian .....	1,100 "

## COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1895.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Feb. 15	870	840	837½	825	710	720/730
Feb. 16	870	840	837½	825	710	720/730
Feb. 17	870	840	837½	825	710	720/730
Feb. 18	870	840	837½	825	710	720/730
Feb. 19	860	835	835	820	710	720/730

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 19th February.—Prices have been maintained, but the demand last noted has slightly subsided. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary .....	per picul	\$2.02 to 2.05
" Round, good quality .....		2.24 to 2.27
" Long .....		2.34 to 2.37
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 .....		2.12 to 2.14
" Garden, " No. 1 .....		2.45 to 2.48
Siam White .....		2.90 to 2.92
" Fine Cargo .....		3.15 to 3.18

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 19th February.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARNS AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—430 bales No. 10 at \$69 to \$77.50, 275 bales No. 12 at \$69.50 to \$72, 20 bales No. 16 at \$76, 275 bales No. 20 at \$81 to \$84.50. Grey Shirtings.—1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Tiger and Flag at \$2, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Stag at \$3.62½, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Men at \$3.60. White Irishes.—1,000 pieces, folds, Blue Dog at \$2.85. Camlets.—90 pieces 8 Persons Assorted at \$17.50, 100 pieces Scarlet, Women and Baby, at \$16.50. Velveteens.—120 pieces 18 inches Horse at \$0.18. Spanish Stripes.—120 pieces Assorted Bird at \$0.53½. Drills.—750 pieces 14 lbs. Dragon at \$3.80. T. Cloths.—300 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. Duck at \$2.51. Turkey Reds.—1,500 pieces Flute-man at \$1.50, 1,000 pieces Peacock at \$1.45.

METALS:—Tin.—250 slabs Fung Choi at \$36.80. Quicksilver.—70 flasks at \$119.50, 180 piculs old Iron Wire Rope at \$2.50.

COTTON YARN.	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20 .....	\$62.00 to \$87.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24 .....	96.00 to 100.00
" 22 to 24 .....	101.00 to 105.00
" 28 to 32 .....	108.00 to 114.00
" 38 to 42 .....	116.00 to 125.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. ....	1.40 to 1.50
7lbs. ....	1.85 to 2.05
8½ lbs. ....	2.40 to 3.10
9 to 10 lbs. ....	3.25 to 3.60
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ....	2.10 to 2.30
58 to 60 " ..	2.60 to 3.10
64 to 66 " ..	3.20 to 3.60
Fine .....	3.90 to 6.20
Book-folds ..	3.50 to 5.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ....	0.60 to 1.35
T. Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y. ....	1.40 to 1.50
7lbs. (32 " ) ..	1.80 to 1.90
6lbs. (32 " ) Mexs. ....	1.60 to 1.70
7lbs. (32 " ) ..	2.05 to 2.25
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.) ....	2.20 to 2.90
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 4lbs. ....	3.20 to 4.20

FANCY COTTONS	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5lbs. ....	1.30 to 2.70
Brocades—Dyed .....	3.90 to 4.95
Damasks .....	0.13 to 0.17

Chintzes—Assorted .....	0.07 to 0.12
Velvets—Black, 22 in. ....	0.21 to 0.32
Velveteens—18 in. ....	0.18 to 0.24
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk .....	0.55 to 0.90
WOOLLENS	
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. ....	0.55 to 0.85
Gorman .....	0.95 to 1.10
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths. ....	1.20 to 2.60
Long Ella—Scarlet .....	6.50 to 7.80
Assorted .....	6.60 to 7.90
Camlets—Assorted .....	14.00 to 29.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted .....	13.50 to 21.00
Orleans—Plain .....	3.70 to 4.90
Blankets—8 to 12lbs. ....	4.50 to 9.00
METALS	
Iron—Nail Rod .....	3.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar .....	3.20 to 3.25
Swedish Bar .....	4.35 to —
Small Round Rod .....	3.50 to —
Hoop .....	4.60 to —
Old Wire Rope .....	3.00 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop .....	6.55 to 6.60
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/28 oz. ....	26.00 to 26.25
Vivian's, 16/32 oz. ....	25.75 to —
Elliot's, 16/28 oz. ....	25.50 to —
Japan Copper .....	24.50 to —
Tin .....	36.00 to 36.50
Tin-Plates .....	6.00 to —
Steel .....	5.50 to —
SUNDRIES AND COALS.	
Quicksilver .....	119.00 to —
Window Glass .....	3.20 to —
Kerosene Oil .....	1.75 to —

SHANGHAI, 14th February.—(From Mr. G. W. Noel's report.)—In the private market business is at an absolute standstill, deliveries of former purchases, however, are going on freely, there being a great improvement in the Hankow demand, but the merchants there are endeavouring to take advantage of the present deadlock in the northern trade and offer very low prices in the case of fresh transactions. The auctions have gone on as usual, and as in this morning's sale no discretion was used with regard to the quantity smashed off, no one was surprised at the smart decline that took place. Of course there is a certain amount of demand locally, and for the River Ports and Ningpo, but the bulk of their requirements have already been anticipated. Japan is still enquiring for Heavy Shirtings of certain chops; they are difficult to get, however, the available stock having been pretty well picked over.

## JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 19th February.—The market has ruled rather quieter during the week under review, and we have no business of any importance to report. Rates, however, have been maintained and market closes steady at quotations.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai.—Small sales have been effected at 157 and 156 per cent. prem. cum div. and at 146 per cent. prem. ex div., closing steady at latter rate. Other Bank stock continues neglected.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Have ruled firm all round, and sales have been effected of China Traders at \$63 and \$63½, Unions at \$150, Cantons at \$160 and \$155, and of North-Chinas and Yangtszes at quotations. Straits are neglected.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have ruled somewhat weaker with sellers and no buyers at \$187½. Chinas have changed hands at \$83 and \$84 cum div., and close firm at that rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have changed hands at \$25.50 and \$25.75. Indo-Chinas have found buyers at \$37. Douglas's remain on offer at \$53 without finding buyers. China and Manilas continue neglected.

REFINERIES.—Continue totally neglected with sellers at quotations.

MINING.—Punjoms and Raubs have ruled quiet with but little or no business at quotations. Balmorals have been in some demand and shares have changed hands at \$3.80, \$3.10, \$4.40, and \$4.20, closing steady at latter rate. Jebebus have been negotiated at \$4.60.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Docks have ruled quiet but steady with sales at \$38 and \$39 cum div., closing firm at \$81 ex dividend. Lands have again changed hands at \$52. Electrics have been negotiated at \$4.50 and \$4.60 and Watsons at \$9.85.

## Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS [sales & sellers]
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai.	\$125	146 p. ct. pm. ex div., nom.
China, Japan, &c....	\$25.0	25
Do., Founders.....	\$1	
Nat. Bank of Ch.		
B. Shares.....	\$28	\$18½, sellers
Foun. Shares.....	\$21	n.m.
Brown & Co., H. G....	\$50	\$6, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$2
China Borneo .....	\$55	nom.
China Sugar .....	\$100	\$150, sellers
Chinese Loan '86 E., Tls. 250		11 p. ct. pm.
Dakin, Cruicks'k & Co.	\$5	\$1
Dairy Farm Co. ....	\$10	\$5, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$16
Green Island Cement	\$0	\$5, sales & sellers
H. Brick & Cement.	\$12.50	\$4, sellers
H. & C. Bakery .....	\$5	\$36
Hongkong & C. Gas.	\$10	\$125
Hongkong Electric...	\$8	\$4.60, sales
H. H. L. Tramways.	\$100	\$65
Hongkong Ice.....	\$25	\$76, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$36, ex div.
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$123, sale:
H. & W. Dock.....	\$125	82 p. ct. pm. ex div.
Hotels—		
Hongkong Hotel...	\$50	\$9, buyers
Shameen .....	\$20	\$4
Insurances—		
Canton .....	\$50	\$155, sales
China Fire .....	\$20	\$77, ex div., buyers
China Traders' ...	\$5	\$64, sales
Hongkong Fire ...	\$50	\$187½, sales & sellers
North-China .....	\$2.5	Tls. 21½, sellers
Straits Marine.....	\$0	\$21, sellers
Union .....	\$5	\$15½, sales
Yangtszo .....	\$60	\$87, buyers
Land & Building—		
H. Land Investm't	\$50	\$52, sales & buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$8, sales
Humphreys Estate	\$0	\$10½
West Point Buildg.	\$40	\$15, sellers
Luzon Sugar .....	\$100	\$48, sellers
Mining—		
New Balmoral.....	\$3	\$4.20, sales & buyers
Charbonnages .....	\$131.58	\$75, sellers
Jebebu .....	\$5	\$4.60, sales & sellers
Punjom .....	\$3½	\$6½, sales & sellers
Do. (Preference)	\$1	\$1.75, sellers
Raubs .....	13s. 10d	\$4 10, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China & Manila ...	\$50	\$65, sellers
Douglas S. S. Co....	\$50	\$53, sellers
H., Canton, & M....	\$20	\$25½, sales
Indo-China S. N....	\$10	\$37, sales
W'chai Wareh'se Co.	\$37½	\$37½
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$9.85, sales & sellers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 15th February:—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been sold for cash at 153 and 155 per cent. premium and exchange 73, and for 25th May at 170, and 30th June at 172½ per cent. premium. Shares are offering for June at the same rate. Shipping.—Shanghai Tug boat shares have been placed at Tls. 120. A few China Mutual S. N. Preference shares have been sold at Tls. 50. Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat shares have been sold to Hongkong at \$25½. Docks.—Boys have been sold at Tls. 150, and Farnhams at Tls. 127½ and Tls. 130. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' Shares have been placed at \$61½ and \$63, and Yangtszes at \$88 cash and \$90 for 31st March. Fire Insurance.—Hongkongs have been sold, from Hongkong, at \$180. China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. The publication of the report, which was better than was looked for, caused a demand for shares, and sales were made at \$84 cash, and \$85 to \$87½ for delivery at the end of April. Wharfs.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 270 to Tls. 275 cash, and Tls. 280 for 31st March. Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were sold at Tls. 141½ and 142½. Miscellaneous.—Business was done in Perak Sugar shares at Tls. 30, Hall and Holtz shares at \$16, Hongkong Land Investment shares at \$51½ from Hongkong, Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 262½ to Tls. 310 cash, and Tls. 280 to Tls. 290 for 31st March, Shanghai-Lankat Tobacco shares at Tls. 92 and Tls. 87½ cash and Tls. 95 for 31st March, and Shanghai Ice shares at Tls. 115. Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Shares have been sold at Tls. 36.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—155 per cent. prem.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited.—Nominal.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, Founders.—Nominal.  
National Bank of China, Ltd., A.—Nominal.



National Bank of China, Ltd., B.—\$21.  
 National Bank of China, Ltd., Founders.—Nom.  
 Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 120 per sh.  
 Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 26½ per sh.  
 China Mutual S. N. Co.—250 per share.  
 Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—T. Tls. 60 per sh.  
 Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$25 per share.  
 Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$53 per share.  
 Shanghai Dock Co.—Tls. 550 per share.  
 Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Tls. 300 per share.  
 Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 150 per share.  
 S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 130 per share.  
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—90 per cent. premium.  
 China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$63 per share.  
 North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 210 per share.  
 Union Ins. Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$146½ per share.  
 Yangtze Insee. Assocn., Ltd.—\$88 per share.  
 Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$155 per share.  
 Straits Insurance Co., Limited.—\$24 per share.  
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$189 per sh.  
 China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$84 per share.  
 Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 275 per share.  
 Birt's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Tls. 37 per share.  
 Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$38½ per share.  
 Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Tls. 1 per share.  
 Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6½ per share.  
 Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares—\$1½ per share.  
 Jebebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$5½ per sh.  
 Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$4.15 p. sh.  
 Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 142½ per share.  
 Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 122½ per sh.  
 Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 200 per share.  
 Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$4 per share.  
 Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 172½ p. sh.  
 Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 30 p. sh.  
 China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$154 per sh.  
 Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$48 per share.  
 Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$16 per share.  
 Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd.—Tls. 36 per share.  
 Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$51½ p. sh.  
 J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$37½ per share.  
 Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 33½ per sh.  
 Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 25 per share.  
 Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 310 p. sh.  
 Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 87½ per share.  
 Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.  
 Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 115 per share.  
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited.—\$9½ per share.  
 L'Hotel des Colonies—Tls. 20.  
 China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company Debentures.—Nominal.  
 Lyceum Theatre Debentures.—Tls. 12.  
 Chinese Imp. Gov. Loan, 1886, E.—Tls. 250 (a).  
 Shanghai Municipal Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).  
 Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 100 (a).  
 Shanghai Land Investment Company Debentures.—Tls. 94.  
 (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

TUESDAY, 19th February.  
 EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—  
 Telegraphic Transfer ..... 1 11½  
 Bank Bills, on demand ..... 1 11½  
 Bank Bills, at 30 day's sight ..... —  
 Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ..... 1 11½  
 Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 2 0½  
 Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..... 2 0½  
 ON PARI.—  
 Bank Bills, on demand ..... 2 48  
 Credits, at 4 months' sight ..... 2 53  
 ON GERMANY.—  
 On Demand ..... 2 00  
 ON NEW YORK.—  
 Banks Bills, on demand ..... 48  
 Credits, 60 day's sight ..... 49½  
 ON BOMBAY.—  
 Telegraphic Transfer ..... 181½  
 Bank, on demand ..... 182  
 ON CALCUTTA.—  
 Telegraphic Transfer ..... 181½  
 Bank, on demand ..... 182  
 ON SHANGHAI.—  
 Banks, at sight ..... 71½  
 Private, 30 day's sight ..... 72½  
 ON YOKOHAMA.—  
 On demand ..... par.  
 ON MANILA.—  
 On demand ..... 16 % pm., nom.

## ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand ..... par.  
 SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ..... \$9.95  
 GO D L E F. 100 fine, per tael ..... 51.80

## TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 15th February.—(From Messrs. Wheeler & Co.'s report.)—Business generally is almost at a standstill, there being absolutely no cargo offering for London, and little or nothing for New York; for the former port, it is to be noted that a steamer calling in from Japan took from this less than one hundred tons, which is certainly not justified by precedent. Rates of freight are:—Shanghai to London.—P. & O. S. N. Co., O. S. S. Co., Ben Line, C. M. S. N. Co., Glen Line, Shire Line 40s. per ton general cargo. 45s. waste silk. 50s. tea. Shanghai to Northern Continental ports 42s. 6d. per ton general cargo. 45s. waste silk. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. Shanghai to London Shell Line 40s. or less 10 per cent. Hamburg 35s., New York 44s. Shanghai to New York direct via London 50s. tea and general cargo; sailer 23s. Shanghai to Havre direct; Genoa and Marseilles—General cargo per ton of 40 cubic feet 37s. 6d. net, 20 cwt. 45s. net. Chefoo to Swatow, nothing doing; Chinkiang to Canton, 19 candareens; Wuhu to Canton and Swatow, nothing doing; Moji to Shanghai, \$2 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.50 per ton coal. Settlements during the fortnight:—John Smith, American 3-mast schooner, 565 tons register, Hakodate to Portland, O., private terms; Lucia, British barque, 640 tons register, Shanghai to Chefoo, private terms. Disengaged vessels in port:—Paul Revere, American ship, 1,657 tons register; Geo. F. Manson, American barque, 1,353 tons register; Darra, British barque, 990 tons register.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Ceylon (str.), Glenfalloch (str.), Telamon (str.), Japan (str.), Kaisar-i-Hind (str.), Malacca (str.), Oceanic (str.).  
 For HAYRE and HAMBURG.—Erato (str.).  
 For AMSTERDAM.—Oceanic (str.).  
 For BREMEN.—Prinz Heinrich (str.).  
 For VICTORIA, B.C.—Tacoma (str.).  
 For SAN FRANCISCO.—Belgie (str.), Tillie E. Starbuck.  
 For NEW YORK.—Glenshiel (str.), St. David, Sinteram, Lucy A. Nickels.  
 For AUSTRALIA.—Tisian (str.).

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

February—  
 ARRIVALS  
 13. Teli, German str., from Chinkiang.  
 14. Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
 14. Activ, Danish str., from Pakhoi.  
 14. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Bremen.  
 14. Ceylon, British str., from Kobe.  
 14. Guthrie, British str., from Kobe.  
 14. Guy Mannering, British str., from Saigon.  
 14. Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.  
 14. Oanfa, British str., from Glasgow.  
 14. Propontis, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 14. J. Diederichsen, German str., from Iloilo.  
 15. Gloucester City, British str., from Moji.  
 15. Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 15. Hongkong, French str., from Hoihow.  
 15. Catterthun, British str., from Sydney.  
 15. Straits of Dover, British str., from Moji.  
 15. Taisang, British str., from Canton.  
 15. Pallas, British str., from Kutchinotzu.  
 15. Port Adelaide, British str., from Penarth.  
 15. Cheang H. Kian, British str., from S'pore.  
 15. Phraang, British str., from Bangkok.  
 16. Presto, German str., from Tonon.  
 16. Ethiopie, British str., from Saigon.  
 16. Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.  
 16. Chusan, German str., from Chinkiang.  
 17. Benlawers, British str., from Saigon.  
 17. Brunhilde, German str., from Canton.  
 17. Continental, Dutch str., from Manila.  
 17. Formosa, British str., from Swatow.  
 17. Kwanglee, British str., from Canton.  
 17. Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.  
 17. Picciola, German str., from Canton.  
 17. Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.  
 17. Tamsui, British str., from Manila.  
 17. Tacoma, British str., from Tacoma.  
 17. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.  
 17. Gov. Robie, Amr. ship, from New York.  
 17. Liyu, German str., from Shanghai.  
 18. Lyderhorn, Norw. str., from Kutchinotzu.  
 18. Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.  
 18. Tamarind, Norw. str., from Hongay.  
 18. Aden, British str., from London.  
 18. Canton, British str., from Shanghai.  
 18. Glenshiel, British str., from Shanghai.  
 18. Kwongmq, British str., from Amoy.  
 18. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.  
 19. Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.

19. Decima, German str., from Port Wallut.  
 19. Paoting, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 19. Mich. Jebson, German str., from Haiphong.  
 19. Fokien, British str., from Tamsui.  
 19. Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.  
 19. Memnon, British str., from Sandakan.  
 19. Euplectela, British str., from Batoum.  
 19. Detroit, American cruiser, from Singapore.  
 19. Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.  
 19. Chiyuen, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 19. Melbourne, French str., from Shanghai.  
 19. Teyi, German str., from Chinkiang.  
 19. Teucer, British str., from Shanghai.  
 19. Nanchang, British str., from Shanghai.

## February— DEPARTURES.

14. Te Li, German str., for Canton.  
 14. Arroyo, British str., for Singapore.  
 14. Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
 14. Glenorchy, British str., for Shanghai.  
 14. Riversdale, British str., for Moji.  
 14. Orestes, British str., for London.  
 14. Rio, German str., for Saigon.  
 14. Sutlej, British str., for Europe.  
 15. Formosa, British str., for Swatow.  
 15. Ancona, British str., for Yokohama.  
 15. Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.  
 15. Oanfa, British str., for Shanghai.  
 15. Propontis, British str., for Canton.  
 15. P. C. C. Klao, Brit. str., for Bangkok.  
 15. Rosary, British str., for Wuchang.  
 15. Sishan, British str., for Swatow.  
 15. Yuensang, British str., for Manila.  
 16. Erato, German str., for Singapore.  
 16. Orono, British str., for Saigon.  
 16. Asloun, British str., for Saigon.  
 16. Ceylon, British str., for Singapore.  
 16. J. Diederichsen, German str., for Saigon.  
 16. Nurnberg, German str., for Yokohama.  
 16. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., for Shanghai.  
 16. Taiheong, German str., for Amoy.  
 16. Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 17. Activ, Danish str., for Hoihow.  
 17. Catterthun, British str., for Shanghai.  
 17. Guthrie, British str., for Australia.  
 17. Holstein, German str., for Saigon.  
 17. Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
 18. Mercury, British str., for Taiwanfoo.  
 18. Brunhilde, German str., for Chinkiang.  
 18. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.  
 18. Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.  
 18. Picciola, German str., for Saigon.  
 18. Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.  
 18. Tamsui, British str., for Shanghai.  
 19. Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 19. Cheang Hock Kian, British str., for Amoy.  
 19. Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.  
 19. Canton, British str., for Canton.  
 19. Chiyuen, British str., for Canton.  
 19. Chunshan, British str., for Swatow.  
 19. Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.  
 19. Denteros, German str., for Bangkok.  
 19. Kwanglee, British str., for Shanghai.  
 19. Liyu, German str., for Canton.  
 19. Paoting, British str., for Canton.  
 19. Peiyang, German str., for Canton.  
 19. Port Adelaide, British str., for Nagasaki.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per Prinz Heinrich, str., from Bremen, &c.—  
 —Mr. and Mrs. G. Melchers, Mr. and Mrs. Delphos, Cpts. Möller and Schulz, Miss Stewart, Messrs. A. Wasserfall, C. Schwenke, R. Röhlke, and P. Wolf.  
 Per Ceylon, str., from Kobe.—Messrs. Burkell and Crawford.  
 Per Guthrie, str., from Kobe for Melbourne.  
 —Mr. P. d'Orzerval.  
 Per Namoa, str., from Coast Ports.—Mrs. Simoes and 5 children, and Mr. Thomas.  
 Per Catterthun, str., from Australia.—Messrs. A. L. Rippley, E. Fracoon, H. Robinson, and T. Chock Tong.  
 Per Phra Nang, str., from Bangkok.—Mr. W. Terumme.  
 Per Sungkiang, str., from Manila.—Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Barretto and child.  
 Per Tacoma, str., from Tacoma.—Dr. Glover.  
 Miss Glover, Mrs. Thomson.  
 Per Esmeralda, str., from Manila.—Messrs. C. F. Fearing, S. Jones, Cras, and Hurique.  
 Per Aden, str., from London, &c.—Mr. T. Motabhoj.  
 Per Glenshiel, str., from Shanghai.—Messrs. Garrick and Wilde.  
 Per Canton, str., from Shanghai.—Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, Messrs. Cunningham and Camera.